

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING VICTORIA GRAY ADAMS CIVIL RIGHTS LEGEND

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the life of an African-American civil rights legend, Mrs. Victoria Gray Adams. Victoria Gray Adams, civil rights activist, co-founded the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party.

Victoria Gray Adams and fellow civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer and Annie Devine were chosen as the national spokespersons for the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and attended the 1964 Democratic Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Though their efforts to unseat the all-white Mississippi delegation were unsuccessful, these pioneering women and other members of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party's decision to challenge the Mississippi Segregationist political machine resulted in an integrated Mississippi delegation at the 1968 Democratic Convention and became a turning point in the civil rights movement. Mrs. Adams gave account of her civil rights involvement in the documentary "Standing on My Sisters Shoulders", in which she recalls the day in 1968 that she along with Fannie Lou Hamer and Annie Devine were the first African-American women to ever be invited as guest on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. She and others were honored at the 2004 Democratic National Convention for their trailblazing spirit and contribution to the civil rights movement.

Mrs. Adams would later become the first woman from Mississippi to run for the United States Senate. Mrs. Adams helped change Mississippi politics significantly by guaranteeing a seat at the table to discuss the African-American agenda. Courageous and tenacious, Mrs. Adams had an unyielding commitment to the civil rights movement, and for that reason today Mississippi has the highest number of African-American elected officials in the nation.

After attending Wilberforce University for a year, Mrs. Adams returned to Hattiesburg, Mississippi where she taught voter registration classes in the early 1960s and her fight for equality began. While Hattiesburg was 30 percent African-American, only 50 citizens were allowed to register to vote. In 1962, Mrs. Adams dedicated herself to the civil rights movement when she became field secretary of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). She would later move to Thailand and labor on behalf of African-American United States servicemen for several years.

In her own words, Mrs. Adams said she learned in 1964 that there were two kinds of people in grass-roots politics, "those who are in the movement and those who have the movement in them." "The movement is in me", she said, and "and I know it always be."

Please join me today in honoring a true civil rights pioneer, Victoria Gray Adams.

HONORING LOUIS LAFAYETTE HUNTLEY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor a great man whose life represents an American success story. Sadly, Louis Lafayette Huntley passed away, but he left behind a legacy of service for generations to follow. Mr. Huntley's life is a testament to commitment, faith and perseverance.

Louis Huntley grew up in a large family in Northeast Florida where he learned from his parents the hard work it takes to be successful in life. Following high school, he served in the U.S. Army for one year and after graduating from the University of Florida in 1950, he committed himself to over 40 years of service, first to the Florida National Guard and later to the Army Reserve until he retired as a Colonel in 1991.

In that same period, Mr. Huntley's distinguished himself in the Florida business community, going out on his own and starting his own business. By the time he sold it in 1990, Huntley's Jiffy Stores, Inc. had amassed 342 locations across Florida and Southeast Georgia. The success of his business endeavors was truly earned. This success translated into politics where he served as president of the Clay County Chamber of Commerce and as a Florida State Representative from 1964 to 1966.

Mr. Huntley's largest accomplishments, however, can be attributed to what he gave back to his family and community. Mr. Huntley was a great family man, with a loving wife, Mary, by his side for over a half-century. Together, they raised three children, Ward, Frank and Edith, who along with their nine grandchildren will carry on his legacy for generations to come. He loved to keep active with charities like the Boy Scouts of America and Rotary International, where he had a perfect attendance record for decades. He was also a man of deep Christian faith who employed his strong family values in his professional and personal life.

Mr. Huntley's life was successful not only because of his hard work and determination, but because he cared so much about those around him. Through innovation and leadership, he was able to create so much in his professional life, yet he still found time be a loving father and husband. He earned the respect and friendship from those that knew him; he will truly be missed.

I would like to send my condolences to his family and those mourning his loss. Although he will be greatly missed, his story will live on for others to follow.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO NEVADA STATE COLLEGE AND DR. FRED MARYANSKI

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the students, faculty and administrators of Nevada State College's School of Nursing in Henderson, Nevada, for their tremendous achievements with their accelerated nursing program. Their achievements are a reflection of their commitment to our community. Dr. Fred Maryanski, President of Nevada State College, has been instrumental in Nevada State College's early success as Nevada's newest institution of public higher education. His leadership, commitment, and vision serves as a testimonial to the success of the college's nursing program.

Nevada State College first welcomed students in August of 2002. It has been charged with the mission to meet the needs of students who are interested in bachelor degrees in our state's much-needed fields such as nursing and education, as well as in other disciplines in the arts and sciences. Since that time, Nevada State College has committed resources, professors, and vision to ensure that their mission statement becomes a reality. For faculty and students, that dream has been achieved. On Saturday, August 26, 2006, twenty-nine students graduated from the college's Accelerated Nursing Program, a success which reflects the college's commitment to providing their students with the necessary resources to achieve their dreams. I would like to commend the following students on their graduation from Nevada State College's Accelerated Nursing Program: Nancy Andruk, Joyce Arce, Royal Bradley, Tatiana Brandon, Katherine Busby, Diandra Castenada, Perla Cisco, Themis De Guzman, Tobyn Derby-Talbot, Andi Del Gatto, Catherine Dullano, Crisandra Eastmond, Raul Ellazar, Desiree Espinoza, Diane Graham, Kathryn Havey, Lynda Hubeny, Marianne Jackson, Brigitte Lacombe, Jeanette Long, Eudora Mordi, Eleanor Mox, Milagros Navarro, Bette-Ann Pierce, Sayma Salman, Dawn Scott, Nicole Thomas, Chantal Whittenberg, Bethany Williams, and Samantha Zomar.

As a result of Dr. Maryanski's tremendous leadership, his faculty's commitment to their goals, and his students' determination to succeed, Nevada State College has become an important component of Nevada's educational system. Dr. Maryanski assumed the presidency of the college in 2005, after a long and distinguished career at one of our country's leading public universities, the University of Connecticut. Since his arrival, President Maryanski has been working in partnership with the Nevada System of Higher Education to triple the number of nursing graduates by 2013.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Dr. Fred Maryanski, President of Nevada State College

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and the students of the Accelerated Nursing Program. Nevada State is making a tremendous difference throughout Southern Nevada, and the Nursing Program is helping to provide skilled workers to the health services across the state. I applaud Nevada State College's efforts and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING MISTY PENA

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Misty Pena of North Richland Hills, Texas, on receiving the venerated 2006 Presidential Freedom Scholarship. As a recipient of this prestigious award, she is recognized for her outstanding leadership and commitment to servicing of her community and its residents.

The Presidential Freedom Scholarship program, sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service and administered by Learn and Serve America, honors select high school juniors and seniors, displaying exceptional service and citizenship, with a \$1,000 scholarship to the college of their choice. To be eligible for nomination, individuals must have completed at least 100 hours of community service and receive the recommendation of their high school.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere congratulations to Misty Pena on receiving this award and commend her dedication and desire to help her school, community, and country.

TRIBUTE TO REX GUYNN OF ZEPHYRHILLS, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a distinguished constituent, Rex Guynn of Zephyrhills, Florida. Rex served as the acting fire chief and recently retired after 21 years of service.

Following his service in the U.S. Army, Rex began his career in 1985 as a firefighter. He quickly rose through the ranks to become a driver engineer, captain, fire inspector, assistant chief and acting chief in June 2006.

An avid runner throughout his life, Rex ran track as a kid and has completed marathons as an adult. In his free time, Rex enjoys hunting, fishing, golfing, motorcycle riding and praising the Lord. A member of the CARES Board that governs the senior center, Rex is also a faithful member of the Oasis Church where he serves as a missionary. Rex also is a member of the Florida Fire Marshal's Association, Prison Ministry, Christian Motorcycle Association, and the Rotary Club.

Rex and his wife, Melinda, have one son, Ryan, and one stepson, Blake. They lost a third son, Aaron, in a motorcycle accident after his military service in Iraq. Following Rex's last official day with the city on August 11, 2006, he and Melinda will travel to Uganda, Africa,

and spread the word of the Lord as missionaries.

Mr. Speaker, Rex Guynn has served the Zephyrhills community with distinction for 21 years. It is a testament to his desire to serve that he and his wife will continue their missionary work following his retirement. I commend Rex for his service and congratulate him on his retirement from the Zephyrhills Fire Department.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF GREGORY JACKSON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute and recognition of Gregory D. Jackson, Fire Chief of Bay Village, Ohio. Mr. Jackson is retiring after serving and protecting the people of Bay Village for over 33 years.

Gregory Jackson served our country as a member of the U.S. Air Force in Korea. Upon his return from military service, Mr. Jackson became a firefighter, working at NASA's Lewis Research Center in Cleveland, Ohio, before joining the Bay Village division in September 1972.

During his career, Jackson became one of the first firefighters trained as a paramedic. In 1976, he helped create the WeShare—West Shore Area Rescue program—that raised the standards of fire fighting skills. Mr. Jackson volunteered countless hours as an Emergency Medical Technician and fire academy instructor, training future generations of emergency responders. With a genuine concern for his community, it is no surprise that Jackson was also involved in the establishment of a centralized emergency response center for nearby suburbs.

In August 1979, Jackson was sworn in as fire chief. His tenure is the longest in Bay Village's history. Throughout his career, his wife, Kim; daughters, Michelle and Connie; and the people of his community have been thankful for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in tribute and recognition of a man whose career has been spent sacrificing his own safety, for the safety of others. His commitment to the protection of the people of northeast Ohio will be missed tremendously. May he enjoy a retirement filled with happiness and good health.

IN HONOR OF JOE HALL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Joe Hall, who has recently retired after serving the citizens of Santa Cruz in various capacities since 1973.

Joe is best known in my office as the steward of the San Lorenzo River Flood Control Project, an effort on which we have worked together since I began my service in Congress and is finally nearing completion.

Through his hard work in the City of Santa Cruz Planning Department and later as assist-

ant director of the Santa Cruz Redevelopment Agency, Joe worked tirelessly to corral the resources of local, State, and Federal agencies toward a project that will provide vital flood protection to the residents and businesses of Santa Cruz.

He was the primary source of information for me as I advocated for the project in Washington, and I know he is as proud of the success of this project as I am.

There is no doubt that the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake is the defining moment for a generation of Santa Cruz residents, and Joe played an integral role in the miraculous redevelopment of a downtown that was literally leveled by the quake.

It might have been an accepted idea at the time to forget about downtown Santa Cruz and redevelop an economic base elsewhere in the area, but the visionary work of Redevelopment Director Ceil Cirillo, Joe, and other city officials led to an amazing rebirth in downtown that continues today.

Joe also was instrumental in the creation of legislation on the State level that provided a special bond financing mechanism to assist with the seismic retrofit of older buildings. While the legislation was approved too late to help Santa Cruz, other California cities have since benefited from Joe's ideas.

While Joe has been an outstanding employee of the city of Santa Cruz since 1973, he has also served the Santa Cruz community in a number of other capacities, including president of the board of education, a public affairs talk show host for a local public radio station, and an instructor in city planning at Cabrillo College.

And while Santa Cruz may have benefited most from Joe's good works, he has also served his country with honor and dignity. Commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Army upon his graduation from UCLA, Joe served as a training officer for the U.S. Army Electronic Command and in 1996 he retired from the U.S. Army as a lieutenant colonel.

I am certain that I have not heard the last from Joe, as I expect he will remain an active member of the community, but I do want to wish he, his wife Marcella, and his children Eric and Christine, the best as they enter this exciting new chapter.

A SALUTE TO REGINA CARTER

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, as Dean of the Congressional Black Caucus, and Chairman of the Jazz Forum and Concert that occurs during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference, I rise to salute the achievements of violinist Regina Carter, a rising star in the field of jazz. The following biography is found on Stephanie Jordan's own web site. It chronicles a career of accomplishment already deserving of high recognition, and of this body's thoughtful attention and respect:

Regina Carter's immersion in music began at the age of 2 when she took up piano followed by violin at the age of 4. Forever indebted to the Suzuki method of music teaching, the approach freed her from the rigid restraints of solely reading music and opened

her to the wonders of improvisation. Though her original focus was classical music, with the hope of being a soloist with a major symphony, the pull of Detroit's rich soul music legacy and the discovery of jazz broadened her horizons.

Regina attended Detroit's prestigious Cass Technical High School. Upon graduating, she departed for the New England Conservatory of Music, only to return to Michigan's Oakland University, seasoning her chops by gigging with several local musicians. She later joined the attention-grabbing all-female quartet Straight Ahead which recorded two albums for Atlantic Records. Carter departed the band in 1994, recording two solo albums for Atlantic while also making the most of her newfound New York connections by working with the likes of the String Trio of New York, Muhal Richard Abrams, and Greg Tate and the Black Rock Coalition.

Carter joined Verve Records in 1998 and has since recorded four critically acclaimed works of astounding maturity and variety: *Rhythms of the Heart*, *Motor City Moments*, (also produced by John Clayton), and *Paganini: After a Dream* (for which she made history by being the first African American and jazz musician to travel to Genoa, Italy to perform and record with the legendary Guarneri del Gesù violin owned by classical music virtuoso Niccolò Paganini), and a duet project with pianist Kenny Barron entitled *Freefall*. Her playing has also graced work that includes filmmaker Ken Burns' soundtrack for the PBS documentary, *Jazz*. Wynton Marsalis' opera *Blood on the Fields*; Cassandra Wilson's tribute to Miles Davis, *Traveling Miles*; and the queen of hip-hop soul Mary J. Blige. In the summer of 2006, Regina will join Latin Jazz pianist Eddie Palmieri for some dates related to his latest recording, the Grammy award-winning, *Listen Here*, on which she was also a guest.

Among her personal accomplishments is work she has done to spread the love of music to others, something that is touched upon in her one original composition on *I'll Be Seeing You*. John Clayton always insists that I write at least one original piece on every album" she says "I chose 'How Ruth Felt,' which is a commissioned piece that I wrote for a woman named Ruth Felt, President of San Francisco Performances, and Arts organization in San Francisco. I spent some time as an Artist-in-Residence there, teaching music to disadvantaged children and spreading the joy of music to people in community centers and churches around the Bay area. Ruth helped me tremendously while I was dealing with my mother's illness. I included 'How Ruth Felt' on my album as a way to say, 'Thank you.'"

Now Regina Carter is looking forward to a brighter 2006, filled with sharing the memory of her mother and the music of *I'll Be Seeing You: A Sentimental Journey* with people in a live context. "When I perform now, she shares, 'I feel different when I go on stage . . . stronger . . . like I've gone through something and really lived! I still get nervous, but all of those negative, critical voices that I used to hear in my head are gone. I think that's my mother . . . making me realize that none of that is important. This is my stage . . . It's what I do . . . and I'm having a good time.'"

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TOWN OF OTISCO CELEBRATED
ON AUGUST 12, 2006

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 200th anniversary of the Town of Otisco. Tucked away in Central New York, the Town of Otisco was formed from parts of the neighboring towns of Pompey, Marcellus, and Tully. Over its storied 200 years, the Town of Otisco has gone through many changes: In 1798, Oliver Tuttle was the first settler in Otisco, clearing land with his sons on the north end of Otisco Lake. Tuttle left, only to return with his entire family 4 years later. The Town of Otisco was officially created in 1806, as more settlers began to call the area home. As the population grew, the town began to experience changes such as the creation of a turnpike road started in 1806 to connect the Town of Otisco to the Town of Skaneateles.

Otisco has contributed its part to our nation. There are 42 Revolutionary soldiers and 57 Civil War soldiers buried in the town, all of whom called Otisco home. Otisco also had nine soldiers in the War of 1812, 22 soldiers in WWI, and 26 soldiers in WWII.

The town's population has slowly grown from 1,850 in the mid-19th century to 2,500 in 2000. Blessed by a pristine landscape and the beauty of Otisco Lake, the town provides a throwback feeling to the old days of small town living. To this day, farming is at the center of life in Otisco, and the lake is still the main area for activity.

On behalf of the constituents of the 25th District of New York, I congratulate the Town of Otisco and its citizens, both past and present, on 200 years of history.

HONORING DR. CLINTON BRISTOW,
JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the life of Dr. Clinton Bristow, Jr., president of Alcorn State University.

Dr. Bristow, 57, became president of Alcorn State University, one of three Historically Black public Universities in Mississippi, on August 24, 1995. Prior to becoming president of Alcorn State University and 11 years of service and leadership, Dr. Bristow served as president of the Chicago Board of Education, dean of the College of Business at Chicago State University, and vice president at Olive-Harvey College in Chicago.

Dr. Bristow was committed to increasing the percentage of minority students attending graduate and professional school and increasing the public's awareness and appreciation of the value and contributions to society by land grant universities through their research, extension programs, and overall excellence. Under Dr. Bristow's direction, Alcorn doubled the percentage of students attending graduate/professional school, improved retention and

established a faculty research incentive program to enhance research in the life sciences, where the university has become a national leader in the production of African-American baccalaureate graduates in the life and agricultural sciences.

President Bristow was a visionary who worked closely with the administration and the community to move Alcorn forward academically. He referred to Alcorn State University, a college of 3,500 students situated in rural Mississippi as the "Academic Resort" and "Communiversity." He believed in quality education and made a difference in the lives of each of his students and believed that each student could make a difference in the world. The students were inspired by his passion for education and his belief in the success of their careers. Dr. Bristow cared deeply for the students and felt personally responsible for their education and stressed the importance of graduate and professional schools. He established relationships with universities in several countries and was responsible for implementing exchange programs and increasing the number of international student enrollment. President Bristow understood the needs of the university and the Alcorn community and used his shrewd business sense to help secure Federal funds to improve the "face" of Alcorn State's campus.

Dr. Bristow earned a B.A., J.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, and an MBA from Governors State University in University Park, Illinois.

The contributions Dr. Clinton Bristow, Jr. made to Alcorn State University will never be forgotten. He touched the lives of many students and alumni throughout his 11 year tenure as president of Alcorn and will truly be missed by the university, community, and his colleagues throughout the country. Please join me today in honoring the remarkable life of Dr. Clinton Bristow, Jr.

HONORING RABBI SOLOMON
SCHIFF

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor Rabbi Solomon Schiff on the occasion of his retirement as Director of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation's Community Chaplaincy Service, and as executive vice president of the Rabbinical Association of Greater Miami. The entire South Florida community has benefited from his more than 40 years of outstanding community service.

Rabbi Schiff has become one of the most recognizable members of the south Florida Jewish community, and his tremendous influence extends far beyond the Jewish people. As a spiritual advisor, an interfaith liaison, and a dedicated community leader, he has truly touched the lives of countless individuals representing all religious persuasions and backgrounds. Anyone having met Rabbi Schiff can attest to his love of his fellow man, his desire to make the world a kinder and gentler place, and his ability to bring people of all faiths and political persuasions together.

Rabbi Schiff has been called upon several times to offer prayers both in the House of

Representatives and the Senate. In 1992, President George H. W. Bush appointed Rabbi Schiff to serve on the "We Will Rebuild Committee." This committee helped restore the areas in south Florida that were severely damaged by Hurricane Andrew. Lawton Chiles, the late Governor of Florida, appointed Rabbi Schiff to serve on a task force to examine the problems of the homeless. Thanks to that task force, two new homeless assistance centers were created in Miami-Dade County alone. More recently, Florida Governor Jeb Bush invited Rabbi Schiff to serve on his Faith-Based Advisory Board.

Rabbi Schiff is known and admired for treating everyone with equal dignity and respect. He has always found time in his schedule to visit as many in need as possible, from ill hospital patients to the homeless. His spiritual guidance is an enduring legacy to the countless individuals he has encountered throughout his career.

Although Rabbi Schiff has won numerous awards, and has served on many local and national committees, the greatest honor he has ever received is the love and support of his family. He and his wife, Shirley, have three grown sons, Elliot, Jeffrey and Steven, and they are the proud grandparents of seven grandchildren. I wish him well as he begins this new chapter in his life, and we all celebrate his many remarkable achievements.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROBERT A.
GERYE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert A. Gerye for his tireless work to enhance the educational experience of the children of Clark County.

Bob Gerye has been an educator for nearly 30 years. He received his bachelors degree in English education from Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, and his graduate and post-graduate degrees from the University of Kansas. He taught English on the college level for several years in Kansas before becoming a secondary education administrator.

Mr. Gerye moved to Las Vegas in 1992. He was the founding principal of the Las Vegas Academy of International Studies, Performing and Visual Arts, which opened in 1993. The Las Vegas Academy was the first academic, dedicated magnet school in the Clark County School District. Mr. Gerye developed and implemented an innovative curriculum which offered students the opportunity to select a major area of study from one of the academy's seven programs and take classes in a college-style block format. During Mr. Gerye's tenure as principal, the Las Vegas Academy was recognized on several occasions at both the State and the national level. In November 2000, the U.S. Department of Education honored the academy as a "New American High School," recognizing it as one of the top high schools in the United States. In October 2002, the academy was again honored by the U.S. Department of Education when it was named a "Blue Ribbon School." In March 2003, the Las Vegas Academy received the Governor's Arts Awards in Education from the State of

Nevada in recognition of its outstanding arts education programs.

As a result of his many successes as an educator, Bob has received numerous accolades. In 1998, Bob received the Community Achievement Award in Education from the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce for his work at the Las Vegas Academy. In 2000, the Clark County School District inducted Bob into the Excellence in Education Hall of Fame. In 2004, he was named the Nevada High School Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary Schools Principals and was a finalist for the National Principal of the Year Award. Mr. Gerye has also received the Jeffrey Lawrence Lifetime Achievement Award for Arts Education, and the Washburn University Alumni Fellows Award for Lifetime Achievement in Education.

In 2003, Bob was selected by the Clark County School District to plan and implement the first Smaller Learning Communities/Career Academy comprehensive high school in the District. As a result of Bob Gerye's strong leadership and his commitment to excellence in education, Spring Valley High School has demonstrated overwhelming success in overcoming many of the challenges faced by a brand new school with a brand new educational structure.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Robert A. Gerye for his contributions to education. He has dedicated his career to improving the quality and the availability of education. His enthusiastic and innovative approach has helped his students reach heights of achievement. Bob Gerye has made a profound difference in our community and we are most fortunate to have such a gifted educator and administrator in the Clark County School District. I applaud his many successes and I wish him the very best as he continues to serve the cause of education.

CONGRATULATING MARC BELLE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marc Belle of Flower Mound, Texas, on receiving the venerated 2006 Presidential Freedom Scholarship. As a recipient of this prestigious award, he is recognized for his outstanding leadership and commitment to servicing of his community and its residents.

The Presidential Freedom Scholarship program, sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service and administered by Learn and Serve America, honors select high school juniors and seniors, displaying exceptional service and citizenship, with a \$1,000 scholarship to the college of their choice. To be eligible for nomination, individuals must have completed at least one hundred hours of community service and receive the recommendation of their high school.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere congratulations to Marc Belle on receiving this award and commend his dedication and desire to help his school, community and country.

TRIBUTE TO CAPT. CHRISTOPHER
PATE OF BEAVERTON, OREGON

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an American soldier who gave his life in service to our Nation.

U.S. Marine Captain Christopher Pate of Beaverton, Oregon was killed in action during operations in Iraq. Captain Pate is survived by his parents, Jerry and Kathy Pate of Lady Lake, Florida, and a fiancée, Margaret Stearns.

While on patrol in Iraq, Captain Pate's patrol was struck by an improvised explosive device, ripping through his unit. Using his dying words to radio for medical assistance, Captain Pate's bravery and actions most likely saved the lives of two other soldiers severely wounded in the attack.

Joining the Marines in 1999, Chris Pate achieved the rank of Captain in July, 2004. Stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, he was assigned to the 2nd Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force. Serving in Okinawa, Korea, Thailand, South America and Yemen, Captain Pate eventually volunteered for two tours in Iraq.

A modern day renaissance man, Captain Pate will be remembered for his love of languages, his sense of adventure and a desire for knowledge. Having paddled up the Amazon, spent time in a monastery, studied esoteric Eastern religions, and learned Spanish, German and Arabic, he was well on his way to achieving his dreams. Scheduled to return from Iraq in November, Captain Pate and his fiancée were planning their wedding ceremony and anticipating a move to Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, it is soldiers like Captain Pate who have volunteered to protect the freedoms that all Americans hold dear. While brave men and women like Chris have perished in the name of freedom and liberty, his family, friends and loved ones should know that this Congress will never forget his sacrifice and commitment.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
HERMAN BOONE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of Herman Boone. As a high school football coach in Alexandria, Virginia, Mr. Boone inspired players to set aside racial differences and unite into one of the most successful teams in Virginia's history.

In 1971, Mr. Boone was named head football coach of TC Williams High School, a high school recently formed from smaller, segregated schools. In order to promote cooperation and teamwork, Mr. Boone used a game plan that was as strong on the field as off the field. Mr. Boone's leadership and love of the game led his team to an undefeated, 13-0 season. But his most memorable win was helping the community of Alexandria traverse

a racial divide. Mr. Boone's affect on the people of once segregated towns was an unconscious one, fueled by his willingness to put prejudice aside and cooperate with coaches and players from white schools. With an open mind, Mr. Boone set the standard and fans followed.

Today, Mr. Boone travels the country as an inspirational speaker. His story, which inspired the Disney movie, "Remember the Titans", has been brought to northeast Ohio. Mr. Boone will be honored at the 40th anniversary luncheon of the West Side Ecumenical Ministry this month.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in tribute and recognition of Herman Boone. His leadership as a high school football coach tackled the challenge of racism. Now more than 30 years later, he continues to lead players, coaches, and teams to victory through his message of persistence and teamwork.

IN HONOR OF DR. ARNOLD MANOR

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Arnold Manor of Carmel Valley, California who passed away on June 2, 2006, after an extraordinary 96 years working to make the world a better place. Dr. Manor lived his life to its fullest, selflessly serving others and living an impressive and honorable life that serves as an example for all Americans to follow. His love of life and his dedication to helping others will be missed by all. I offer his wife Dorothy, daughter Susan, and the rest of Dr. Manor's family my deepest condolences.

A pioneer in our local community, Dr. Manor became the first professional to specialize in Obstetrics and Gynecology on the Monterey Peninsula beginning in 1938. Over the course of his 52-year medical career, he helped deliver over 7,500 babies into this world. Dr. Manor was committed to giving his patients the utmost care and respect and his interactions with his patients serve as an example for other medical practitioners to follow. In addition to his medical practice, Dr. Manor served as one of the leaders during the planning and construction of the Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula.

Along with his dedication for caring for others in the medicinal world, Dr. Manor donated much of his time to various noteworthy nonprofit boards throughout the community. Dr. Arnold served as chairman for the Monterey Urban Renewal Agency, the Carmel Bach Festival, the Carmel Music Society, the Devereux Foundation, and the Gateway Center, just to name a few. One of Dr. Manor's most lasting marks on our community was his leadership at the Monterey Peninsula College.

Dr. Manor lived his life to its fullest and shared his kindness with all who were fortunate to meet him. He is remembered by friends as one whose life was enriched by his love of music, reading, and nature. In his final decade, Dr. Manor frequently enjoyed the company of his hiking companions in the Haasis Hikers group. Dr. Manor brought out the best in people, working amicably and productively, never seeking praise or reward for his honorable work.

Mr. Speaker, in short, our country has lost a remarkable citizen. While Dr. Arnold may no longer be with us, his memory and life's work will carry on in all those whose lives he touched. I regret that Dr. Manor was unable to be in every city in our country, because our society grew greater and kinder with every person he touched. On behalf of the United States Congress, it is my privilege to honor the life of Dr. Arnold Manor, and I join his family, friends, and communities of the Monterey Peninsula in mourning the loss of this truly great American.

A SALUTE TO MARLON JORDAN

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, as Dean of the Congressional Black Caucus, and Chairman of the Jazz Forum and Concert that occurs during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference, I rise to salute the achievements of trumpeter Marlon Jordan, a rising star in the field of jazz. The following biography is found on Marlon Jordan's own web site. It chronicles a career of accomplishment already deserving of high recognition, and of this body's thoughtful attention and respect.

Marlon Jordan is the youngest of seven children of musician-educator Edward Jordan and Edvige Jordan, a classical pianist. "I started out playing saxophone, violin and drums," says Marlon, "but the trumpet was the instrument that stuck with me." Marlon recalls his father literally taking him on the bandstand "even before I really knew how to play. He'd introduce me to all the musicians, and they'd call me up on the stand. They'd say, 'Come on. That's Kidd's son. Let him play.'"

As he continued his musical studies he had the day to day inspiration of Wynton Marsalis, Terence Blanchard, and many others to draw on. The young musicians often hung out at the Jordan household where they would practice music with Kent Jordan and take lessons from Edward Jordan. Marlon graduated from the famed NOCCA (New Orleans Center for the Creative Arts).

An accomplished classical musician as well, Marlon has performed solo with the New Orleans Symphony Orchestra. But his true joy is his constant performance in the streets and nightclubs of New Orleans and Brazil.

His debut album "For You Only," released by Columbia Records was the source of unanimous praise from the press. It was named "one of the best debut albums of the year" by the Washington Post. Following the debut album's release, Marlon took his quintet on the road. They joined Wynton Marsalis, Miles Davis and George Benson as a headlining act in a series of JVC Festival dates (produced by George Wein) in Atlanta, Dallas and other cities. They also played in some of the country's top jazz clubs, including the Blue Note and the Ritz, as well as in concerts ranging from New York's Avery Fisher Hall to Binghamton University.

Marlon understood that his continued growth as a musician depended on his ability to stake out his own musical ground, and not just to play standards. Following up on his own

ideas, he wrote five of the tunes on his second Columbia release "Learson's Return" (April 1991). Following a series of quintet dates immediately following the album's release in the spring of '91 (highlighted by a run at the Village Vanguard), Marlon joined up with "Jazz Futures"—George Wein's brilliantly-conceived "supergroup" of "Young Lions"—virtually playing every major jazz festival and outdoor "shed" on the circuit.

Mr. Speaker, latest release, "You Don't Know What Love Is," features his sister, vocalist Stephanie Jordan. Marlon, Stephanie and another sister, violinist Rachel Jordan, will be performing together on September 7, 2006, at the Jazz Forum and Concert that I will host during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's 36th Annual Legislative Conference. I urge all of you, and those who love real jazz to attend.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RALPH CONTE

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ralph Conte, who recently retired as Chief of the Civil Engineering Facility Programming Branch Air National Guard. Ralph attained this position in 1990, assuming the duties as lead engineering programmer for the National Guard, providing infallible advice, council, and programming decisions.

Ralph was born in 1940 in Ponza, Italy, a small Mediterranean island off the coast of Anzio. He lived his early years as a citizen of Italy, playing with childhood friends and attending the Italian school system, which at that time was limited to the 5th grade. This academic level is comparable to an American 9th grade education.

Ralph immigrated to America in 1956 with mother and brother, joining his father who had left Italy for the United States in 1954. The trip from Naples to New York Harbor took 7 days on the grand dame of the sea, the Andrea Doria. This was the Andrea Doria's second to last trip before her horrific collision and sinking of July 25, 1956. Upon arriving in the United States, the Conte family settled in White Plains, New York, where Ralph became a naturalized U.S. citizen in July 1961, and graduated from White Plains High School. He continued his education, attending New York University, Bronx Campus, receiving a BS in Civil Engineering and Central Michigan University receiving a Master's Degree in Industrial Management.

Ralph joined the Air Force on April 20, 1967 and was commissioned as a 2nd Lt on June 30, 1967. From 1967 to 1970, he served on consecutive overseas tours from Aviano to Vietnam. In 1970, he was assigned to RED HORSE with Headquarters in Bien Hoa where he was responsible for all design and construction. Later, he was reassigned to Kunsan AB, Korea as the Officer in Charge for a Detachment of the RHS out of Cam Ran Bay. In 1972, Ralph was again reassigned to Wright Patterson, Ohio, where he assumed the oversight of facility programming including MFH, NAF, MILCON, R&D and O&M funds. Wright Patterson would be Ralph's last stop as an active duty service member, as he separated

from the Air Force on April 30, 1975 at the rank of Captain. Since 1975, Ralph has faithfully worked for the Air Force as a civilian in his former job, achieving his final assignment in 1990 as Chief of the Facility Programming Branch (ANG/CEP).

Mr. Speaker, throughout his career, Ralph Conte has demonstrated a profound commitment to the Air Force, Air National Guard and the Nation. He is a consummate professional whose performance in over 30 years of service has personified those traits of competency and integrity that our Nation has come to expect of its senior civilian leaders. I would like to thank Ralph for his many years of dedicated service and wish he and his family a fulfilling retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SPRING VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the students, faculty and administrators of Spring Valley High School in Las Vegas, Nevada, for their tremendous achievements in educational progress.

Spring Valley High School opened in August 2004 as the first Smaller Learning Communities/Career Academy High School in the State of Nevada. Robert Gerye, principal of Spring Valley High School, developed a unique curriculum and educational design intended to prepare students for higher education while providing opportunities to explore possible career paths. The curriculum design provides an environment in which students can interact more effectively with teachers and administrators. Each grade level is housed in its own wing of the school and assigned an administrator and a counselor who will be with those students throughout their high school years. To further foster educational growth and individualized student attention, every staff member at Spring Valley High School is assigned approximately 20 students to mentor as they advance from 9th to 12th grade. The format establishes a greater level of coordination between teachers in each grade level, increased collaboration with the local post-secondary institutions and rigorous academic standards intended to help students graduate with the preparation necessary to excel in college and in their chosen careers.

Although Spring Valley High School is worthy of recognition for many reasons, I wish to recognize Spring Valley High School today for its tremendous improvement under the standards set by the No Child Left Behind Act. As a brand-new school in the 2004–2005 school year, Spring Valley High School faced many challenges. It was classified on the 2004–2005 Accountability Report as a school which did not demonstrate Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). As a result of Mr. Gerye's tremendous leadership, his faculty's commitment to their goals, and his students' determination to succeed, Spring Valley High School not only met the Adequate Yearly Progress criteria this year, it has been classified in the 2005–2006 Accountability Report as a High Achieving—Growth institution.

The administration, faculty and staff at Spring Valley High School have approached

their goals with discipline and determination and, as a result, they have enhanced both the academic experience and performance of its students. For the incredible contribution they have made to the success of Spring Valley High School, I would like to commend the following individuals: Walt Acra, Larry Adams, Sheila Ali, Lisa Ancona, Carlise Arellano, Rica Arenas, Jennifer Ashford, Joyce Bakkedahl, Teresa Barajas, Phanom Baravong, Ana Barnes, Bianca Bautista, Elaine Beller, Bibi Belloto, Louise Belviso, Christopher Bires, Robert Bloom, Donald Bohm, Christina Bolin, Liana Bolton, Marilee Botos, Shawn Boyle, Charles Branch, Susan Brewer, David Brooks, Elizabeth Brown, Valerie Bugni, Dawn Burns, Antonio Caiati, Paul Campbell, Heather Carroll, Daniel Casel, Charlotte Chapman, Bernard Chase, Holly Chidester, Douglas Clarke, Kathy Clemens, Vaunette Coache, Paulette Coleman, Ann Collum, George Comadena, Melissa Conley, Geraldine Conte, Laurie Daly, Eric DeAnda, Ann Deleuil, Patricia Delfs, Amy DeVaul, Paula Digerolami-Macon, Suzanne Dompierre, Melody Dubois, Anna Eapen, Cindy Eisen, Ann Elandt, Jeanette Engelhart, Diane Epstein, Sarah Federspiel, Karen Florence-Hopkins, LaVanda Ford, William Fouts, Victoria Franklin-Dillon, Thomas Fraiser, Rhonda Fritch, Jennifer Gallegos, Diana Gambino, Anthony Gamboa, Richardo Garcia, Gail Garrett, Dean Gentuso, Michelle Gex, Robert Gillingham, Mamie Glorioso, Michael Gomez, Dennis Goode, Gayane Gulyan, William Hamilton, Sarah Hanes, Yuki Harada-Hart, Christopher Hendley, Edward Henry, Kevin Henry, Connie Hines, Caprice Houston-Bey, Rebecca Hutchings, Linda Idemoto, Lori Jackson, Rebecca Jackson, Tanya Jackson, Steven Jacobson, Jill Jaeger, Charles Janette, Margaret Jeffrey, Susan Jennings, Andrew Jennings, Emily Jensen, Brett Jeross, Shirley Jimenez, Bessie Lee Johnson, Deborah Johnston, Harlan Johnston, Karen Jolivet, Emily Jones, Yvette Kagan, Ethel Keck, Lisa Keith, Heather Kennedy, Lezlie Koepf, Joel Krautstrunk, Morgan Krista, Susan Kuehl, Denise Lauriano, Monica Lavelle, Wende Lestelle, Robert Leytham, Enrico Litterini, Peter Locatelli, Johnny Macon, Rosette Mare, Kyle Martin, Gary Mayers, Phillip McAlister, Brianne McElroy, Melinda McGill, John McLavy, Jr., Jackson Meeker, Frederick Meyer, Michelle Minggia, Kimberly Moody, Dawn Moore, Robert Murphy, Elonda Murray, Amy Murray, Rachelle Nearn, Jane Newton, Richard Niemczewski, Amy Nugent, Michael O'Brien, Michael Oliver, Serene Oppenheim, Rebecca Pappas, Chrissy Paradiso, Iretta Pearson, Joe Peck, Evan Politi, Debbie Pope, Shannon Powell, Jeffrey Pynter, Dennis Pumphrey, Louis Reale, Efrain Rene, Shirley Reuben, Susan Rheinwald, Tyra Riefler, Roberto Rodriguez, Jeffrey Rubin, Ian Salzman, Adam Sampson, Angelica Sanchez, Elizabeth Sandelin, Daniel Schantol, Christina Schenauer, Nikki Semmelroth, Nicholas Sevano, Paul Shapiro, Susie Shepley, Donald Shumaker, Debbie Simons, Brant Smith, Marion Smith, Jr., Mitchell Sperling, Gregory Stack, John Staples, Heather Stringham, Jen Strobel, Robert Stropky, Jr., Cindy Taylor, Marcus Teal, Jeanine Tegano, Jennifer Tichon, James Tippet, Bonnie Toth, Justin Truitt, Leota Tucker, Travis Underwood, Becky Utchel, Nayelee Villanueva, Clara Virga, Lynn Wentland, Stacey White, Yvette White, Debo-

rah Whitt, Michael Williams, Sabrina Woodruff: Dave Yacubovich, Kenneth Young, Suzanne Ziegler, Emily Zierse, and Lee Zigan.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Robert Gerye and his extraordinary staff at Spring Valley High School for the exceptional progress they have made this year. Their tireless efforts to exceed the achievement standards set by the No Child Left Behind Act have made a profound difference for the students who attend Spring Valley High School. I applaud this outstanding achievement and I look forward to seeing Spring Valley High School and its students continue to excel in our community.

CONGRATULATING HEATHER CROSSMAN

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Heather Crossman of North Richland Hills, Texas, on receiving the venerated 2006 Presidential Freedom Scholarship. As a recipient of this prestigious award, she is recognized for her outstanding leadership and commitment to servicing of her community and its residents.

The Presidential Freedom Scholarship program, sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service and administered by Learn and Serve America, honors select high school juniors and seniors, displaying exceptional service and citizenship, with a \$1,000 scholarship to the college of their choice. To be eligible for nomination, individuals must have completed at least 100 hours of community service and receive the recommendation of their high school.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere congratulations to Heather Crossman on receiving this award and commend her dedication and desire to help her school, community and country.

TRIBUTE TO THE VIRGILIO LODGE NO. 1586 AND THE BEATRICE PORTINARI LODGE NO. 1626 OF THE ORDER OF SONS OF ITALY ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Virgilio Lodge No. 1586 and the Beatrice Portinari Lodge No. 1626 as they celebrate their Golden Jubilee Gala on September 9, 2006.

The Order of the Sons of Italy in America was established in Vallejo, California, in January of 1931 when one-fourth of the community was composed of Italian Americans. The Sons of Italy is a National Fraternal Order that has lodges throughout the United States and Canada and took out its Charter in 1905 in New York City. They believe in liberty, equality and fraternity.

The lodges have been very active in Vallejo and Solano County including awarding 15 annual scholarships; raising in excess of \$80,000

for the Alzheimer's Research Center at the University of California at Davis Medical Center; donating \$5500 to the helipad at Sutter Solano Hospital in Vallejo; donating to numerous charities in the area; and in 1976 sponsoring the Landing of Columbus at the Vallejo Waterfront as a Bicentennial Tribute to the City of Vallejo.

Through the years the Virgilio Lodge and the Beatrice Portinari Lodge have jointly participated in activities from civic to social functions in Vallejo. Among their shared highlights during their 75-year history are sponsoring the annual Columbus Day Banquet and initiating the renaming of Miller Road to Columbus Parkway. In 1974 they dedicated their own Lodge building in the former Lincoln School annex, which represents a second family home to the entire membership. Three Lodge members have served as Mayors of Vallejo: Terry Cutrola, Jr., Anthony J. Intintoli, Jr., and Gloria Exline. Many other members have served as elected or appointed officials in the City of Vallejo and are very active in the community.

I commend the Virgilio Lodge No. 1586 and the Beatrice Portinari Lodge No. 1626 for their many contributions to the City of Vallejo and wish them many more years of service to the community.

HONORING DAVID ANDERSEN

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and recognize David Andersen, President and CEO of Saratoga Hospital and Saratoga Care Inc., in celebration of his retirement on August 31, 2006. The immeasurable amount of time and effort that David has given during his career has helped countless citizens of my district, and has made Saratoga County a better place to live.

Since becoming President and CEO of Saratoga Hospital in 1991, David has greatly expanded and improved the healthcare capabilities available to those in need throughout Saratoga County. Under his leadership the hospital merged with Family Health Centers in the towns of Ballston Spa, Galway, and Schuylerville, and established Saratoga Care Inc. as the parent company of the combined healthcare organization. During his tenure, David oversaw the creation of the Same Day Surgery Center, the Cardiac Catheterization Center, the Saratoga Surgery Center, the Radiation Oncology Center, the Pulmonary Rehabilitation Center, and Wilton Medical Arts as affiliates of Saratoga Hospital. David has also worked to implement innovative healthcare education programs through Saratoga Care, to give patients and their families the knowledge they need to make difficult healthcare decisions. Through his tireless dedication to his profession, Saratoga Hospital and its affiliates have become among the healthiest in the Capital District of New York.

It is my privilege to honor such a selfless and dedicated member of my district. All citizens should be able to have access to the best quality healthcare available, and through David's leadership and the expansion of the

Saratoga Hospital and its affiliates, that has become a reality to so many of my constituents in Saratoga County. On behalf of the House of Representatives I would like to commend David Andersen on a truly distinguished career and wish him the best of luck in the future.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF PORTLAND'S MAX LIGHT RAIL LINE

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of the opening of Portland's pioneering MAX—Metropolitan Area Express—one of America's first light-rail lines. Since 1986, MAX has been one of our region's most visible icons of livability—and has served as an inspiration to cities across the Nation and around the world. Instead of building yet another expensive and destructive freeway that would have divided and degraded Southeast Portland, we created MAX and coaxed higher-value investments from Federal transportation dollars. While this was certainly controversial at the time, our decision led to a renaissance for both Gresham and Portland and increased value for our entire region.

This anniversary gives us the opportunity to think about how our current decisions will be celebrated in another 20 years. If we are to continue our success, we must leverage what we've accomplished in the years ahead.

With light-rail, that's exactly what we're doing. In the last 20 years we have built three more extensions: Westside MAX, Airport MAX, and Interstate MAX. We are also hard at work on extending the system to the south and are hopeful that the next project will cross the Columbia River, expanding our regional system to include Vancouver, Washington.

The overwhelming popularity and success of our light-rail system is a testimony to wise investments, meaningful public participation, and regional leadership that took the political risks to make it all come together. The result has been a regional transportation system that truly supports the communities it serves and provides people with reliable and efficient choices to cope with congestion, skyrocketing oil prices, and global warming.

My heartiest congratulations to TriMet, elected officials, business leaders, and citizens throughout the Portland region for this amazing success story.

TRIBUTE TO VIETNAM WAR VETERAN LEON ZIMMERMANN, JR., OF CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Leon Zimmermann, Jr., of Homosassa, Florida, a Purple Heart Veteran from the Vietnam War.

In August of 1970, Leon Zimmermann was assigned to guard an area along the Phouc

Xuyen River and provide a safe landing area for his fellow troops. As a 19-year-old Navy sailor serving in the jungles of Vietnam, Mr. Zimmermann was looking forward to his watch being over and the opportunity to get some much needed rest in the barracks.

A sudden mortar explosion killed two of his fellow troops, and severely wounded Mr. Zimmermann and two other sailors nearby. Taken to the radio room by the medics, Mr. Zimmermann was eventually evacuated by a rescue helicopter. Once he recovered from his wounds, he received a medical discharge from the Navy.

Due to problems with his military records, Mr. Zimmermann never received official recognition for his military service. I recently had the honor of presenting Mr. Zimmermann with his Purple Heart Medal for the wounds he received that fateful August afternoon.

Following his military service, Mr. Zimmermann was able to put the incident behind him and raise five wonderful children in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, sailors like Leon Zimmermann, Jr. should be recognized for their service to our Nation and for their commitment and sacrifices in battle. I am honored to have presented Mr. Zimmermann with his long overdue Purple Heart. He should know that we truly consider him one of America's heroes.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WEST SIDE HUNGARIAN REFORMED CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of the West Side Hungarian Reformed Church, which is celebrating its centennial anniversary. This month, the congregation will also commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1956 uprising against communism in Hungary.

The Church has supported its members and community faithfully during its 100 years of service. It has served as a haven for immigrants and refugees during various stages of its historic pilgrimage. The Church has become a spiritual community comprised of Hungarian old timers, newcomers, and others associated with the congregation through family and religious ties.

All the people of the greater Cleveland area have benefited from the West Side Hungarian Reformed Church's participation in the community's social and cultural activities. People of the Cleveland area have joined the congregation to honor Hungarians who, half a century ago, resisted oppression, fought in a heroic attempt to restore freedom to Hungary, and made sacrifices to advance the cause of liberty.

My official congratulations and best wishes are extended to the Reverend Zoltan Sandor Kelemen, as well as to the members of the congregations, past and present, for their selfless efforts to serve the church and community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in offering a proclamation of congratulations to the West Side Hungarian Reformed Church on its 100th anniversary.

CONGRATULATING JAMIE DEAN
LUCAS

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay public tribute to Jamie Dean Lucas, a friend and constituent from my congressional district who will be representing Kentucky in the upcoming NBC reality series "The Biggest Loser." Jamie will compete against contestants, representing each of the 50 States, in a nationally broadcast weight loss and fitness challenge.

Jamie is an especially generous and talented member of my community. By taking on this important challenge, Jamie is giving himself and his family a new lease on the future. In fact, Jamie is already well on his way toward his ultimate weight loss goal. I have no doubt that he will soon again enjoy some of his favorite activities like tennis and horseback riding. I am also sure that his commitment to health will give him many more happy years to enjoy with his children and future grandchildren.

Weight loss is a very difficult endeavor. Jamie's steady spirit and unyielding determination represent the very best of what it means to be a Kentuckian. I am proud that Jamie will be representing my district before a national audience and prouder still to call him my friend.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Jamie Dean Lucas, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for all that he has accomplished in the past few months. His remarkable progress is a true inspiration to many of us in Kentucky and, very soon, for millions of television viewers across the Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC
SERVICE OF THE NEW JERSEY
STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT
ASIAN-AMERICAN ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous public service of the New Jersey State Law Enforcement Asian-American Advisory Committee. With Americans of Asian heritage making up an increasingly large proportion of our population, both in New Jersey and across the Nation, it is important that law enforcement have a strong relationship with the Asian-American community.

There are an estimated 14 million U.S. residents with Asian heritage. That's 5 percent of the U.S. population. They are by no means of a monolithic culture—with backgrounds from Korea, Vietnam, Philippines, Taiwan, and elsewhere. Asian-Americans have lent this diversity to our national melting pot, enriching America with their contributions to music, food, design, literature, entertainment, and more.

Asian-Americans are our neighbors, our local business owners, our teachers, our elect-

ed officials, and also our police officers and first responders. The New Jersey State Law Enforcement Asian-American Advisory Committee helps to bridge the gap both for Asian-Americans in the law enforcement family and in the larger population. Its members engender a greater understanding of the special needs of the Asian-American community.

I am proud to work with them to make New Jersey's neighborhoods safer and bring New Jersey's communities closer, and I am proud to support their efforts to become a national organization.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5970, ESTATE TAX AND EXTENSION OF TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2006 AND H.R. 4, PENSION PROTECTION ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 28, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, tonight we should have had an opportunity to help lift 6.6 million Americans out of poverty by passing the first minimum wage increase in nearly a decade.

As it is, it's an absolute disgrace that the minimum wage has been stagnant at \$5.15 since 1997.

Republican inaction has led to the fact that the minimum wage is at its lowest level in 50 years. In fact, if the minimum wage had just kept up with inflation since 1968, it would have been \$8.88 in 2005. That is still, quite frankly, a pittance for what people need to live.

But this increase is in jeopardy by a cynical, political ploy on the part of the House Republican leadership.

Mr. Speaker, this sham minimum wage legislation contains "poison pills." Namely, the incorporation of the estate tax cut and further tax cut extensions into the minimum wage bill.

Even worse, under this sham Republican legislation 1.8 million workers will have to wait until June 2009 before the minimum wage reaches \$7.25.

Once again, the Republican majority is proving how much contempt they have for the working families of America.

Mr. Speaker, Congress should be voting on a clean minimum wage bill that will provide a meaningful increase to working Americans. Its only fair.

TRIBUTE ON THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE COUNTY

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer congratulations to one of Maryland's premier institutions of higher learning—the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)—as it celebrates its 40th anniversary.

Located on what was once a cow pasture, the university has risen to astonishing heights in a very short time. When UMBC first opened

in 1966, it had only 750 students and three buildings. Today, the university offers first-rate education and research opportunities to more than 11,000 students, while retaining the personal contact typically found at a small liberal arts college.

In recent years, the guidance of President Freeman Hrabowski has led the university to new heights. UMBC's unique combination of undergraduate focus and graduate research reflects the dedication to balance that has led UMBC to become one of the top public universities in the nation.

The nationally recognized Meyerhoff Scholars Program, which Dr. Hrabowski co-founded, is among the most successful undergraduate diversity programs in the nation. UMBC has one of the highest rates of minority students pursuing advanced degrees in medicine and science of any school in the United States. UMBC also has been ranked first nationally in the total number of undergraduate chemistry degrees given to African-Americans.

In 40 years UMBC has become one of the nation's top independent public research universities. The numerous accomplishments of the university are all the more impressive because they have come so rapidly. In fact, UMBC is one of the youngest universities ever to be honored with a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, and in recent years UMBC has led every university in the nation in undergraduates receiving Merck Undergraduate Science Research Scholarships.

Mr. Speaker, I call upon my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring the achievements and success of UMBC, one of the bright stars in American higher education.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO NEVADA
STATE COLLEGE AND DR.
CONNIE CARPENTER

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the students, faculty and administrators of Nevada State College's School of Nursing in Henderson, Nevada, for their tremendous achievements with their accelerated nursing program. Their achievements are a reflection of their commitment to our community. Dr. Connie Carpenter, Dean of the School of Nursing, has been instrumental in Nevada State College's early success as Nevada's newest institution of public higher education. Her leadership, commitment, and vision serve as a testimonial to the success of the college's nursing program.

Nevada State College first welcomed students in August of 2002, it has been charged with the mission to meet the needs of students who are interested in bachelor's degrees in our state's much-needed fields such as nursing and education, as well as in other disciplines in the arts and sciences. Since that time, Nevada State College has committed resources, professors, and vision to ensure that their mission statement becomes a reality. For faculty and students, that dream has been achieved. On Saturday, August 26, 2006, twenty nine students graduated from the college's Accelerated Nursing Program, a success which reflects the college's commitment

to providing their students with the necessary resources to achieve their dreams. I would like to commend the following students on their graduation from Nevada State College's Accelerated Nursing Program: Nancy Andruk, Joyce Arce, Royal Bradley, Tatiana Brandon, Katherine Busby, Diandra Castenada, Perla Cisco, Themis De Guzman, Tobyn Derby-Talbot, Andi Del Gatto, Catherine Dullano, Crisandra Eastmond, Raul Ellazar, Desiree Espinoza, Diane Graham, Kathryn Havey, Lynda Hubeny, Marianne Jackson, Brigitte Lacombe, Jeanette Long, Eudora Mordi, Eleanor Mox, Milagros Navarro, Bette-Ann Pierce, Sayma Salman, Dawn Scott, Nicole Thomas, Chantal Whittenberg, Bethany Williams, and Samantha Zomar.

Dr. Carpenter brings a wealth of experience in nursing, nursing education, educational administration and in delivering quality online instructional programs to the Nursing program. She has been a leading advocate in expanding the nursing program at Nevada State College; she is a pioneer in developing distance learning programs. She is very dedicated to providing effective and accessible education. I have full faith that with Dr. Carpenter's leadership, Nevada State College will continue to exceed every possible expectation.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Dr. Connie Carpenter, Dean of the School of Nursing, and the students of the Accelerated Nursing Program. Nevada State is making a tremendous difference throughout Southern Nevada, and the Nursing Program is helping to provide skilled workers to the health services across the state. I applaud Nevada State College's efforts and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING MR. BRYCE
BENTON

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bryce Benton, a graduate student in the masters program at the University of North Texas School of Library and Information Sciences, on receiving the Paul Evan Peters Award. This great honor is awarded jointly by the Association of Research Libraries, the Coalition for Networked Information and EDUCAUSE to individuals whose achievements in information science and librarianship move forward intellectual productivity and scholarship.

Mr. Benton's most recent work with DSpace open source systems on an institutional repository pilot project at the University of North Texas has won him many accolades from his professors and fellow peers.

Described as "personable, enthusiastic, and as someone who possesses a 'volunteering spirit,'" and recognized by this award for his "civic responsibility, democratic values, and imagination," he will undoubtedly continue to advance the field of librarianship and information sciences.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Bryce Benton on receiving the Paul Evans Peters Award and commend his dedication and desire to helping promote scholarship and intellectual productivity.

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL YOUTH
COURT MONTH

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as National Youth Court Month. During September, more than 1,100 youth courts operating in district-level juvenile justice systems, schools, and community-based organizations in 49 states and the District of Columbia will celebrate the fifth annual National Youth Court Month.

Youth court—also known as teen court, peer court, and student court—is one of the fastest growing crime prevention and early intervention programs in the nation. Youth court volunteers, under the supervision of adult volunteers, act as judges, jurors, clerks, bailiffs, and counsel for youth charged with minor delinquent offenses and problem behavior. The overall goal is to help offending youth find an appropriate, constructive, and restorative disposition.

This year, the theme of National Youth Court Month is "Correcting Crooked Paths: Youth and Communities in Partnership for Justice." The theme addresses two very important aspects within the youth court realm: learning from mistakes and youth empowerment. Uniquely, youth and adults from a variety of entities in the community including justice agencies, nonprofit organizations, schools, and municipalities work side-by-side to address and solve local problems particularly related to juvenile crime and problem behavior.

I visited several teen courts last year and was impressed by the power this innovative program has to change misdirected and challenged teenagers into productive and adjusted adults. I would like to recognize their efforts and those of so many other courts by proclaiming September 2006 as National Youth Court Month. I urge Americans to celebrate the valuable contributions that youth courts and their volunteers, adult and youth, make to keep our nation's communities safe.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. HELENA CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the parish community of St. Helena Catholic Church, as members and leaders celebrate one hundred years of faith and hope throughout Cleveland's west side neighborhoods.

Throughout the past century, St. Helena Parish has served as a spiritual refuge for Americans of Romanian heritage, and was established as the first Romanian Catholic Church built on American soil.

The ministry of St. Helena began in 1906, with a mission focused on supporting the spiritual and cultural needs of Romanian immigrant families who settled in Cleveland. Since that time, a number of pastors and parish-

ioners have served as critical guides in the journey of the faithful at St. Helena Church. Over the years, this close-knit parish community has evolved and grown, and its faithful members have survived numerous struggles and hardships. Generations of Romanian Americans have assimilated into American culture, with the support and guidance of the leaders and members of St. Helena Catholic Church.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of every past and current member and spiritual leader of St. Helena Catholic Church. In 1906, as today, St. Helena parish continues to provide a haven of faith, guidance, renewal and support for hundreds of families, along Cleveland's near Westside and far beyond.

TRIBUTE TO CATALYST
CONNECTION

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Catalyst Connection, the proud recipient of the Economic Development Administration's 2006 Excellence in Economic Development Award in the category of Enhancing Regional Competitiveness.

Catalyst Connection is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping small- and medium-sized manufacturers improve their competitive performance. Clients of Catalyst Connection can receive assistance to address their operations in the fields of: Financial Programs, Information Technology, Lean Manufacturing, Market Development, Product Development, Quality Systems, Web Marketing and Workforce. Since Catalyst Connection's creation in 1988, they have served over 1,000 clients and have delivered \$43.7 million in value-added impact to their clients' operations in 2005 alone.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring Catalyst Connection as recipient of the 2006 Excellence in Economic Development Award for all of its fine work with the region's businesses.

LABOR DAY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrated Labor Day this past weekend, the Census Bureau made the plight of working-class Americans more clear with its most recent report on income, poverty and health care in 2005. Unfortunately, the statistics confirmed what many Americans across the country have known for some time: the economic policies of the Administration benefit only a lucky few while most working Americans are struggling from paycheck to paycheck. The federal minimum wage has been stagnant since 1996, real household income has dropped more than \$1200 in the past five years, and the number of uninsured Americans has jumped by 1.3

million just in the last year, totaling 46.6 million. Meanwhile, the Administration is pushing for a tax cut for the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans. It is no wonder that most people believe that things are going from bad to worse, and want a new direction for America.

These important concerns were raised by my constituent and good friend Shelley Kessler in the San Mateo Daily Journal on September 4, 2006. Shelley Kessler is the executive secretary-treasurer of the San Mateo County Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO. She is a powerful voice for labor rights and her clear vision makes her a trusted ally who always fights for the best interests of America's workers. I wholeheartedly associate myself with her comments and ask unanimous consent that the text of her article be included in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues, on both sides of the aisle, to read this important statement on helping America's workers by Shelley Kessler.

[From the Daily Journal, Sept. 4, 2006]

ARE WE WORKING TO LIVE OR LIVING TO WORK?

(By Shelley Kessler)

Mark Twain once said: "Sometimes I wonder whether the world is being run by smart people who are putting us on or by imbeciles who really mean it."

When you look around this Labor Day, you have to wonder about that quote. America is not working the way it should for working people, let alone those who are struggling to find jobs on which they can support themselves and their families. The disparity between the rich and working poor is growing every day. People are working harder and making less. We're in a health care crisis that's deeper than any of us ever imagined. We all worry about how we'll retire with dignity. A good, middle-class life is increasingly out of reach. Who ever thought that in America, our kids might not be better off than their parents? Today's economic outlook for children and the next generation is pretty grim.

Bill Moyers recently cited these facts: "In 1960, the gap between the top 20 percent and the bottom 20 percent was 30 fold. Now it is 75 fold. Thirty years ago, the average annual compensation of the top 100 chief executives in the country was 30 times the pay of the average worker. Today it is 1,000 times the pay of the average worker. The top 10 percent of earners have captured almost half the total income gains in the past four decades and the top 1 percent have gained the most of all—more in fact, than the entire bottom 50 percent."

And the Bush administration wants to tie an increase of the minimum wage, which has not been raised in 10 years, to a tax break for the top 1 percent, to the wealthiest 8,200 families in the country. As if he or any of his cronies could live on less than \$7 per hour.

Mark Twain, is this what you meant?

In the words of one of our former Supreme Court justices Louis Brandeis: "You can have wealth concentrated in the hands of a few, or democracy; but you cannot have both."

That's why it is time to take back our humanity! And that means that the bad actor Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and others of his supporting cast must be removed from the script. Pretending to care about people while lining the pockets of the rich cannot continue.

Today there is vast public support of broad social goals such as affordable medical coverage for all, decent wages for working people, safe working conditions, a secure retire-

ment and clean air and water. We must bring back a government "of, by, and for the people" to deliver on those aspirations and make sure that America is working for all of us.

George Jean Nathan once said: "Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote." So this November, we are organizing, not just to provide for workers on the job, but to mobilize our communities to action. We will build a grassroots effort to elect people to fight hard for these goals; people who share a vision of common good, who respect the public trust that has been placed in their hands and will earn the right to represent the majority of people who work diligently every day and are the real backbone of this country, this state, and this country.

Here in San Mateo County, the labor community invites other like-minded people to join with us. Let's work together to protect the gains we've made while providing access to a better quality of life for those struggling every day; our food service workers, janitors, home care workers and many others who deserve a decent wage and health care. Let us try to create a place where people have retirement security for which they have worked hard, instead of giving golden pensions to corporate CEOs who have been stripped from the obligations promised to their employees like at United Airlines. Our county is making great strides in the area of health care, sustainable communities and transportation.

The challenges are great, but our efforts are paying off and will continue with dedication and commitment.

We can stop the race to the bottom. We can invest in our future. We can and we will make a difference if we unite together to improve the quality of life and respect for the work we all do. Let's "work to live," we've earned it.

RECOGNIZING 31 YEARS OF SERVICE BY COL PAUL C. CHRISTIAN, USMC

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 31 years of dedicated service of Marine Corps COL. Paul C. Christian.

Colonel Christian is a native of Neenah, WI. While attending the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Colonel Christian joined the Marine Corps Platoon Leaders' Class and underwent officer candidate training during the summers of 1973 and 1975. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in December 1975 upon graduation with a B.S. in Criminal Justice.

In March 1976, Second Lieutenant Christian reported to the Basic School, MCDEC, Quantico, VA. Upon graduation in September 1976, he was sent to NAS Pensacola, FL, for flight training. After receiving his designation as a Naval Aviator and promoted to First Lieutenant in November 1977, he was ordered to HML-267, Camp Pendleton, CA, for transition into the UH-1N. His duties consisted of CMCC/CMS Officer, Adjutant, Flight Officer, and Assistant Operations Officer. He was promoted to Captain in September 1980, and deployed twice to Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, Japan, with HML-267, Detachment Alpha.

In April 1982, Captain Christian became a "Plank Holder" upon the commissioning of

HMT-303, where he served as the Administrative Officer and a Huey flight instructor. Ordered to SOMS, MCAS El Toro, CA, in October 1982, he was assigned as a Search and Rescue Pilot, Officer-in-Charge of Air Freight/VAL, and Assistant Airfield Operations Officer. In October 1985, Captain Christian reported to 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, as the Air Officer. During this period, he deployed to WESTPAC with BLT 1/1, 11th MEU.

Again ordered to HMT-303 in October 1986, he was assigned as the Operations Officer and was promoted to Major in July 1987. In April 1988, Major Christian reported to HMLA-267 for duty as Executive Officer of Det. Alpha and deployed to MCAS Futenma. Upon returning from WESTPAC, he assumed duties in January 1989 as the Executive Officer of MWSS-372, MCAS Camp Pendleton. In January 1990, Major Christian was assigned as a student at the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, VA.

Upon graduation in June 1990, Major Christian was ordered to the Conventional War Plans and Interoperability Directorate (J-7), Joint Staff, Pentagon, Washington, DC. During this tour, Major Christian served as an action officer for deliberate and crisis action planning. Promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in July 1993, he then reported to MAG-39, MCAS Camp Pendleton, as the Operations Officer for MAG-39. From June 1995 to June 1997, Lieutenant Colonel Christian was the Commanding Officer, Aviation Ground Support Element, 3rd MAW, MCAGCC, 29 Palms, CA.

In June 1998, he graduated, with distinction, with a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College, Newport, RI. Assigned to the 3rd Marine Division, Okinawa, Japan, in August 1998, he served as the Deputy and then as the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3. Additionally, he was the Commander, Marine Forces Forward, during Exercise Cobra Gold '99 conducted in Thailand.

In August 1999, Colonel Christian reported to I Marine Expeditionary Force and served as the Force Fires Coordinator, Future Operations Officer and as the Chief of Staff of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade and the Special Purpose MAGTF, Exercise Bright Star conducted in Egypt. He was the Commanding Officer of MCAS Camp Pendleton from July 2000 to July 2003. On 11 July 2003 he was assigned as the Chief of Staff, Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area (MCABWA) and MCAS Miramar. He assumed the additional duties of Acting Commander, MCABWA and MCAS Miramar from September 2003 until April 2004 due to the deployment of the Commanding General to Iraq, when he then resumed his Chief of Staff duties. He assumed the duties as the Commanding Officer of MCAS Miramar on 6 January 2006.

Colonel Christian's personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and the Joint Staff Badge.

He is married to the former Deborah J. Behnke of Kewaskum, WI. They have two daughters, Rachel and Betsy.

On behalf of the people of the United States whom Colonel Christian spent a career serving, I thank him for his service and commitment to the defense of our Nation.

HONORING SONITROL SECURITY SYSTEMS ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sonitrol, an electronic security company located in Buffalo, NY, that marked its 30th anniversary on August 1, 2006. I am pleased to be able to join with President David P. Jones and Vice President Paul A. Nickel to celebrate their success and commitment to providing comprehensive security solutions to businesses in Western New York.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Nickel brought Sonitrol Security Systems to life in 1976 when they relocated to Buffalo, NY, from Connecticut. They began their business in the basement of what is now known as the HSBC building in downtown Buffalo. Working day and night handling both the sales and the installation of their security systems, Mr. Jones and Mr. Nickel grew the company and began to acquire other alarm companies in the process.

Sonitrol Security Systems uses unique "Verified Alarm Technology" that results in high apprehension rates and low false alarm rates in the security alarm industry. Sonitrol has used "Verified Audio Intrusion Detection" for several years and will soon introduce "Verified Video Intrusion Detection" to further enhance the quality of service that they provide their business customers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in Congress to please join me in wishing David P. Jones, Paul A. Nickel and the employees of Sonitrol Security Systems continued success in the security business. I am confident that they will remain an invaluable security company, employer and partner in Western New York for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE END-OF-ACTIVE SERVICE OF STAFF SERGEANT CLAIRE J. BUFFINGTON, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 7 years that SSG Claire Buffington has served in the United States Marine Corps.

Coming to the United States from Scotland, Great Britain, Staff Sergeant Buffington is a true patriot who has significantly contributed to the defense of our Nation. Staff Sergeant Buffington enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in June 1999, and was assigned to the Fourth Recruit Training Battalion, Recruit Training Center, Parris Island, SC. She graduated as company honor graduate and received a meritorious promotion to the rank of private first class. She subsequently attended Marine Combat Training at Camp Geiger, NC, and Supply School at Camp Johnson, NC.

Private First Class Buffington's first assignment was to the Second Marine Division's Supply section at Camp Lejeune, where she served as a supply clerk. She was promoted

to the rank of lance corporal and then transferred to the Second Marine Division Headquarters Battalion supply section where she served as a supply clerk and platoon sergeant. During this assignment, she earned meritorious promotion to the rank of corporal in July 2001, completed Corporal's Leadership Course, and then earned meritorious promotion to sergeant in November 2001. Sergeant Buffington also graduated from the Marine Corps Marksmanship Instructor's Course and served as pistol and rifle requalification coach for Headquarters Battalion, 2d Marine Division.

In June 2003, Sergeant Buffington was assigned to the House Liaison Office, Office of Legislative Affairs, Headquarters Marine Corps, as the administrative clerk, and was promoted to staff sergeant on February 12, 2006. In her current capacity, Staff Sergeant Buffington has faithfully served the 435 members of the 106th, 107th, 108th and 109th Congresses as a member of the Marine Corps' House of Representatives Liaison Office. Staff Sergeant Buffington has been responsible for directing and organizing many congressional and staff delegations around the world, as well as numerous congressional events on Capitol Hill. Her attention to detail in every event she participates has made a positive impact on the relationship between the Congress and the Marine Corps.

Mr. Speaker, few can match the dedication and Esprit de Corps that Claire Buffington has shown over her 7 years of service to Corps and country. I wish Claire and her husband Tony continued success in their future endeavors. Many thanks Staff Sergeant Buffington, our Nation has benefited from your outstanding leadership.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KELLY PURCELL

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Kelly Purcell, the former Director of Federal Government Affairs for the California and Nevada Credit Union Leagues. She passed away on Tuesday, August 1, 2006.

Kelly earned a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Social Behavior from the University of California, Irvine. In addition, she earned a Master's degree in Psychology from Pepperdine University, and another Master's in Political Management from George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management. Kelly's academic achievements and experience were of great value as she advanced her career.

In October of 2003, Kelly became the Federal Legislative Affairs Manager for the California and Nevada Credit Union Leagues. She was quickly promoted to serve as Acting Director of Federal Government Affairs in September of 2004, and became Director in February of 2005. In her position, she served California and Nevada credit unions by overseeing Congressional and regulatory advocacy programs.

Kelly attended the Credit Union National Association Government Affairs Conference in

February of this year. At the event, she met with legislators on Capitol Hill to update them on important issues including the effects of the Rallies for Credit Unions, the importance of local union movements, and the progress of the Credit Union Regulatory Improvements Act.

Mr. Speaker, I am saddened by the unexpected loss of such a young and ambitious woman. Kelly's hard work brought passion and enthusiasm to the California and Nevada Credit Union Leagues through her advocacy efforts in Nevada, California, Washington, D.C., and nationwide. She will be deeply missed.

CONGRATULATING MYCHAL BLACK

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mychal Black of Lewisville, Texas, on receiving the venerated 2006 Presidential Freedom Scholarship. As a recipient of this prestigious award, she is recognized for her outstanding leadership and commitment to servicing of her community and its residents.

The Presidential Freedom Scholarship program, sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service and administered by Learn and Serve America, honors select high school juniors and seniors, displaying exceptional service and citizenship, with a \$1,000 scholarship to the college of their choice. To be eligible for nomination, individuals must have completed at least 100 hours of community service and receive the recommendation of their high school.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere congratulations to Mychal Black on receiving this award and commend her dedication and desire to help her school, community and country.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT HARTWIG OF ZEPHYRHILLS, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Hartwig, the Zephyrhills Fire Chief who recently retired following 32 years of service. Chief Hartwig began his career in 1974 as the first paid firefighter with the Zephyrhills Fire Department, and then rose through the ranks to become a driver engineer, captain, assistant chief and finally chief in 1983.

Chief Hartwig was instrumental in the construction of a second fire station. The new station included administrative offices and doubled the size of the department. He helped secure various grants to enhance the department's functionality and offset the city's budget. Chief Hartwig also entered into a joint venture between the city and Florida Hospital of Zephyrhills to initiate a Wellness/Fitness Program for all Zephyrhills fire rescue personnel.

Holding an A.A. degree from Hillsborough Community College, Chief Hartwig achieved

the difficult Smoke Diver's Certification. In his spare time, he has been involved with many clubs and organizations, including: President of the East Pasco Soccer Youth League, President of the Kiwanis Club, youth baseball coach, youth soccer coach, board member of the Chamber of Commerce, member of International Association of Fire Chiefs, member of Florida Fire Chiefs' Association, member of Pasco Hernando Fire Chiefs' Association, member of Florida Fire Marshals' Association and was an instructor at the Florida State Fire College.

Chief Hartwig will spend his retirement years pursuing his first love; home remodeling. Learning the construction trade by working side-by-side with his father, he eventually created his own home remodeling business, "The House Doctor." He also loves Alaska and has spent extensive time there commercial salmon fishing. Chief Hartwig has a grown son, Jeff, a grown daughter, Amy, and one grandchild.

The entire Zephyrhills community can be proud of the work that Chief Hartwig has accomplished during his thirty-two year tenure. A dedicated public servant, Robert Hartwig has earned his retirement many times over and should be congratulated for a job well done.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
CLEVELAND POLICE DETECTIVE
JONATHAN SCHROEDER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Cleveland Police Detective Jonathan Schroeder, who bravely and selflessly heeded the call to duty and made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our community.

Family, friends and service to others enveloped Detective Schroeder's life. He drew personal strength and faith from those close to him, especially his wife, Amy, and infant son, Eric. His generous spirit and humble nature made him a role model for those around him. He would often help shovel neighbors' driveways and sidewalks, and when his premature son left Fairview Hospital in a healthy condition, he vowed to make an annual donation to the hospital.

Detective Schroeder's steadfast focus on hard work and serving the public were evidenced throughout his life. He grew up in Monroeville, Pennsylvania and was a 1992 graduate of Kent State University. Detective Schroeder finished the police academy in 1996 and heroically served the Cleveland Police Department for ten years, five of those years as a detective. His calm demeanor and sense of fairness reflected in his colleagues' deep admiration and respect for him, as a police officer and as a human being. Detective Schroeder had a reputation for handling victims, as well as suspects, with an equal amount of respect.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Detective Jonathan Schroeder. I extend my deepest condolences to his family members and many friends. The ultimate sacrifice, significant service and true heart that framed the life of Detective Schroeder will live forever in the

memories and hearts of all those who knew and loved him best. His legacy of service and courage will be honored and remembered by the Cleveland community, today and for all time.

HONORING LOUIS E. DAUGHERTY,
M.D. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
RETIREMENT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of Dr. Louis E. Daugherty on the occasion of his retirement from the position of Medical Examiner of Napa County.

Dr. Daugherty has had a long career of service to his community and country, exemplifying the highest ideals of the medical profession. Born in St. Paul, Minnesota, Dr. Daugherty earned a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Arizona before completing his M.D. at Marquette University.

Dr. Daugherty served as a Battalion Surgeon in the United States Army in Vietnam, saving the lives of many young soldiers. His bravery during the Tet Offensive at the Siege of Saigon was rewarded with a Silver Star, one of our nation's highest military honors for distinguished gallantry. He was further recognized with the Combat Medic's Badge for his medical service alongside infantrymen under combat conditions in the Vietnamese Delta.

After his service in Vietnam, Dr. Daugherty returned to school to complete his residencies at one of our nation's finest medical schools, the University of California at San Francisco. Having finished his residencies, he took a series of positions in the greater Bay Area as a pathologist and medical consultant. He has worked for Napa County for the last 28 years as a Medical Examiner and Forensic pathologist.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to his career with Napa County, Dr. Daugherty has assisted his wife Sheila's innovative treatment center to help teens with substance abuse problems. He has provided the medical services which allow the center to assist teens with the broad scope of issues they must confront in overcoming substance abuse.

Dr. Daugherty is known to his friends and family as a man of strong character and steely determination. A long-time marathon runner, he has also completed the Ironman and other triathlons. Dr. Daugherty and his wife have two children, Dr. Eugene Daugherty and Dr. Matthew Daugherty. They are also blessed with two grandchildren, Cecilia and Frances.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we extend thanks to Dr. Louis E. Daugherty for his long record of public service to the people of Napa County. His professional and personal integrity have greatly contributed to our community, and I wish him all of the best in the future.

RECOGNIZING LILLIE BEATRICE
KNIGHT IRVING

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize a Mississippian who has given a century of service to her family, friends and community. She and her husband, the Reverend Monroe J. Irving, reared ten children. She now has forty-two grandchildren, eighty-seven great-grandchildren, twenty-eight great-great-grandchildren, and one great-great-great-grandchild. Her family in quality and quantity has blessed southwest Mississippi.

Lillie Beatrice Knight Irving was born on September 11, 1906 in Adams County, Mississippi. She studied at Wickland Elementary School, Brumfield High School, and Alcorn State University. She then gave back to the education community serving as a teacher for forty-six years at the Tate Baptist Church Public School, the Wickland Elementary Public School, Central Elementary School and Liddell Elementary School.

She married Monroe Irving on January 17, 1933 and together they made a life of service to God and man. She served as the church clerk for thirty-three years and deaconess of Greater Mt. Bethel Baptist Church. Her service can be seen in the many awards and honors she has received from her church and community. But the real fruit of her life can be seen in how she cares for her fellow Mississippians through prayer and work and faith.

Mr. Speaker, Lillie is thoughtful and careful to feed her mind, body and soul; keeping active and balancing a strong body and her strong faith. Her commitment to the Word of God and her saving Lord has given her purpose and her life's strength. She has a family with a wonderful reputation and she and they have been a blessing to her community, her friends and everyone she comes in contact with. I hope this Congress joins me in wishing her a very happy one-hundredth birthday and praying she has many years with the Mississippi she so loves and serves.

TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY S.
ABRAHAMSON

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to a distinguished American, Shirley S. Abrahamson, who is being honored today at the Wisconsin State Capitol for her 50 years of membership in the bar, 30 years as a justice on the Wisconsin Supreme Court, and 10 years as Chief Justice.

But Chief Justice Abrahamson is not being honored solely on the basis of time-served. Her colleagues, students, friends, and family, indeed all citizens of Wisconsin, are the beneficiaries of her work ethic, intellect, compassion, sense of humor, respect for justice and dedication to the law.

An elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, this daughter of immigrants grew up across the street from her family's grocery store in New York City. The only

woman in her law school class, the first woman on the Wisconsin Supreme Court, the first woman to serve there as Chief Justice, Shirley Abrahamson, among other honors, was elected by her peers as President of the Conference of Chief Justices and Chair of the Board of Directors of the National Center of State Courts because of their "abiding confidence in her leadership and her judicial acumen."

She paved the way for women in the law and set a standard of excellence in the Court, always reminding us, "We need to be careful to appreciate our system of judicial independence and ensure it survives."

Last year, while standing patiently in the line of mourners outside the U.S. Supreme Court to pay respects at the bier of Chief Justice Rehnquist, Chief Justice Abrahamson was recognized and urged to exert her celebrity and move to the front of the line. "That's not the Wisconsin tradition," she replied.

Shirley Abrahamson not only respects Wisconsin's tradition of equal justice and equal opportunity, she enforces both with strength, courage, and grace.

I join the people of Wisconsin in paying tribute to a great jurist and citizen, Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 426. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye".

NEW BEDFORD CELEBRATION OF THE NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, on September 12th, the Annual Hispanic Recognition Awards Ceremony will take place in New Bedford, Massachusetts. These awards express the admiration and appreciation of the community for outstanding individuals who have shown leadership in a variety of ways. Unfortunately for me, we will be in session when this awards ceremony takes place, and I will not be able to attend in person, which I would have liked to do so that I could express directly my admiration and gratitude to the winners of these awards for the work they have done.

Mr. Speaker, since I cannot be there and because the work that is being recognized is so important not just for the Hispanic Community but for the Greater New Bedford Community and indeed all of Southeastern Massachusetts, I wish to take the opportunity here to commend Mayor Lang, elected officials and the committee, led by Director Emilio Cruz, who have done the work that is culminating in this important ceremony and to express my deep appreciation of the winners of the awards.

Mr. Speaker, the list of the awardees is: Reverend Eva Amaro, Senior Pastor of the Christian Revival Temple, Dr. Guillermo Gonzalez, MD, renowned psychiatrist, Mr. Anibal Lucas, Director of the Maya Kichee USA, Ms. Raquel Tejas, businesswoman.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TERRY AND LEE KISTNER

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Terry and Lee Kistner of Overton, Nevada for their overwhelming commitment to serving others.

Terry and Lee moved to Overton nearly ten years ago. Shortly thereafter, they opened Valley Boot and Shoe Repair, a small business specializing in leather craftsmanship, including boots, saddles, tack and repairs. Despite the struggles of owning a small business in an economy dominated by large companies and manufacturers, Terry and Lee have managed to keep their doors open and their business running successfully for more than nine years. In order to do so, both Terry and Lee work full-time jobs and stagger their schedules so that each can tend to the needs of their business.

Although their extraordinary work ethic and commitment to their craft is part of what makes the Kistners an asset to the Moapa Valley Community, it is their remarkable compassion for others and their dedication to community service that is truly inspiring. Terry and Lee strive to help others in any way they can. They frequently contribute their expertise in leather craftsmanship to school and community groups. Whether it means donating leather and teaching special education students how to make their own belts, donating labor and craftsmanship to the Nevada High School Rodeo winners or donating custom-made boots to fulfill a young boy's dreams of owning real cowboy boots, the Kistners are happy to give their talents to a variety of worthy endeavors.

Terry and Lee are also committed citizens of the United States of America. They instilled in each of their four children a sense of pride in their country and a commitment to serving others. They currently have a son who is serving in the United States Army in Iraq. In addition to all they do to serve their local community, the Kistners also strive to support their son in his military service. The Kistners have purchased and donated a variety of needed equipment and supplies for their son's 17-member military unit.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Terry and Lee Kistner on the floor of the House for the extraordinary citizens that they are. I commend their patriotism and their inspiring commitment to serving others. I thank them for the sacrifices they have made to brighten the lives of those around them and I wish them the very best in all their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO STERLING DOBBS OF HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Sterling Dobbs of Homosassa, Florida.

Joining the Army in June of 1941, Mr. Dobbs spent more than 4 years in service to our Nation. As a pilot, Mr. Dobbs proved his mettle in more than 35 combat missions in the European Theater during World War II.

Awarded his 1st distinguished flying cross on October 20, 1944, Mr. Dobbs had already shown extraordinary achievement as a pilot flying a B-24 aircraft on many bombardment missions.

On April 8, 1945, Mr. Dobbs received an oak leaf cluster for a distinguished flying cross as the lead pilot on a mission over enemy occupied continental Europe. On his 30th mission, Mr. Dobbs was the lead B-24 aircraft for the 2nd Air Division that flew into Kassel, Germany where they bombed a factory. After this mission he flew several more as the command pilot, with a final total of 35 combat missions.

Truly one of America's greatest generation, Mr. Dobbs served in the Nebraska National Guard for 3 years prior to his 5-year active duty commitment. Following his honorable discharge from the Army, Mr. Dobbs then served reserve duty for another 17 years.

Mr. Speaker, true American heroes like Sterling Dobbs should be honored for their service to our Nation and for their commitment and sacrifices in battle. It was young men like Sterling Dobbs who saved the world from the threat of Nazi occupation of Europe. Without their help, America and her allies would not have been victorious in World War II.

COMMEMORATING MT. JULIET'S HEROES THIS PATRIOT DAY

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the First Annual Patriot Day Community Candlelight Tribute in Mt. Juliet, TN.

Tonight, citizens from across Wilson County will come together to pay tribute to the men and women in uniform who work hard to protect our communities everyday. With flags flown at half-staff, a moment of silence and heartfelt prayer and a candlelight ceremony this evening, Mt. Juliet will remember all those who were lost on September 11, 2001 and honor the Americans who serve and protect our country today.

At home, our law enforcement officers, sheriff's department personnel, firefighters and emergency rescue workers give their energy and expertise to fight a variety of challenges and threats to make sure we are safe. From natural hazards and fires, to crime prevention, and the ever-growing meth epidemic, these local heroes endanger their lives to make ours safer.

Overseas, we count on the brave men and women of the Armed Forces to defend our

freedom and protect democracy. They face countless dangers as they serve under the most difficult of conditions. We remember our family members, friends and neighbors across Wilson County and Tennessee who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. And it is with great pride and admiration that we support the Tennesseans who continue to serve their Nation overseas.

Tonight's Patriot Day Community Candlelight in Mt. Juliet is an opportunity to personally thank our local heroes—both at home and overseas—for their dedication and sacrifice. It is a time to remember those patriots we have lost, and it is a chance for us to renew our own patriotic spirit.

**NAVY MASTER DIVER CARL
BRASHEAR REMEMBERED**

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a great American warrior and patriot. Master Chief Carl Brashear passed away on July 25, 2006 at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth. His legendary accomplishments, however, live on in Navy lore today and for generations to come.

As a 17 year old, Brashear joined the Navy in 1948, shortly after the service had been officially desegregated. At age 23, he applied for, was accepted to and graduated from the Navy Salvage Diving School. Twelve years later, an accident aboard the salvage ship *Hoist* nearly cost Brashear his career and his life. Brashear's left leg was amputated below the knee, a crippling debilitation for anyone but worse for a man whose dream was to be a master diver in the finest Navy in the world. He refused to give up.

In 1967, Brashear became the first Navy diver to be restored to full active duty as an amputee, and his focus returned to the sea. By March 1968, he was back to work at the NAS Norfolk where he served as the lead diver.

In June 1970, less than 4 years after the accident, Carl Brashear made history again. He became the first African-American to be certified as a master diver in the United States Navy and the only amputee deep-sea diver to ever achieve that status. Brashear would also go on to become the first black man to ever become Master Diver of the U.S. Navy, a position he held from 1975 to 1977. Brashear retired from the Navy in 1979 after 31 years of devoted service.

"Carl, a man with such humble beginnings, has touched so many people," said retired Master Diver J. Lamont King—the fifth black American in history to earn the title. "He represented African-Americans. He represented people with disabilities. He represented the United States Navy. He represented veterans. He was the best of the best of what was truly American." For many, Carl's courage broke barriers and helped changed attitudes, but his legacy is not that of an amputee or of an African-American but rather of a seaman who overcame disability and racial prejudices to join a long blue line of American heroes.

As the Command Master Chief of NAB Little Creek Hakim Diaz remarked, "We pay tribute

to a seaman, a Sailor in whose chest beat the most valiant heart of all." MCBM Brashear's son, Phillip Brashear, an Army chief warrant officer 4, said it best, "He taught people worldwide that your race, your gender, your religion, none of that makes any difference. You can achieve your goals, you can be held accountable to your characteristics as a person, not by the color of your skin."

Countless stories of MCBM Brashear's bravery, determination, courage and friendship show that he was more than a man with a dream; he was a sailor whose skill and dedication make him a hero. Brashear was the recipient of multiple awards and commendations including the Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Medal, Navy Occupation Service Medal and the Presidential Unit Citation.

Nearly 800 people gathered last week to honor MCBM Brashear as he was memorialized. To their words I can add only that through the actions of Master Chief Carl Brashear, we are a better nation today. Without the resolve of sailors like Carl Brashear, a man whose boundless determination inspired every walk of life, our country and its people could never truly understand dedication and sacrifice.

**IN HONOR OF COLONEL RICHARD
STEPHEN GEBELEIN**

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Colonel Richard Stephen Gebelein upon his retirement from the United States Army Judge Advocate General's Corps after 26 years of faithful and distinguished service.

Colonel Gebelein's legal career began upon his graduation from Villanova University School of Law in 1970. After law school, Colonel Gebelein served as a law clerk on the Delaware Chancery Court, deputy attorney general for the State of Delaware, State Solicitor of the Delaware Department of Justice, and as the Chief Deputy Public Defender. In 1979, Colonel Gebelein began his military career when he became a member of the United States Army Judge Advocate General's Corps with the HHC 261st Signal Command of the Delaware Army National Guard.

After serving as Delaware's Attorney General from 1979 to 1983, Colonel Gebelein was appointed to the bench of the Delaware Superior Court. Colonel Gebelein's appointment to the bench required that he become what's known as an M-Day Soldier, or a part-time drilling soldier. However, Colonel Gebelein continued to bolster his already impressive credentials by graduating from the United States Army War College and earning a degree in Islamic Studies at the University of Sarajevo in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Colonel Gebelein has also been integral in improving services provided to soldiers in the Delaware Army National Guard. Colonel Gebelein devised the system used for processing administrative discharge boards and courts martial at the Delaware Army National Guard.

In 2004, Colonel Gebelein was called-up and went to Afghanistan and served as the

Rule of Law Officer for the Staff Judge Advocate Combined Forces Command—Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Colonel Gebelein served in Afghanistan for 8 months and shortly after his return to the Delaware Superior Court, his expertise as a premier international jurist was recognized; based on the quality of his character and knowledge in international legal matters, Colonel Gebelein was invited to address the United Nations forum on International Humanitarian Law and Peacekeeping Operations. Colonel Gebelein currently serves as an International Judge for War Crimes and Organized Crime and Economic Corruption on the Criminal and Appellate Divisions of the Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to express my deep personal thanks to Colonel Gebelein for his service to the United States Army, the Delaware Superior Court, and the citizens of Delaware. Colonel Gebelein's distinguished career is a testament to his impeccable character, intelligence, and integrity. I'm proud to call him a friend, but I'm grateful that he is a Delawarean.

**TRIBUTE TO MONTY BROOKS AND
THE IMPORTANCE OF BASIC
FIRST AID TRAINING**

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to highlight the importance of basic life-saving skills such as CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver. One of my constituents, Monty Brooks, recognizes the importance of these skills following a frightening experience in August.

On this warm Indiana evening, Monty Brooks and his 9-year-old daughter, Carrington, were spending time together on their porch. Carrington had prepared some leftovers from dinner and after a lull in the conversation, Monty realized something was terribly wrong with his daughter. Carrington clutched her neck indicating that she was choking.

Mr. Speaker, Monty Brooks knows first-hand the importance of basic life-saving skills. Monty is the director of health and safety for the Hoosier Heartland Chapter of the American Red Cross. His experience with Carrington only serves to highlight his long-time understanding that these skills are important.

Monty Brooks put his basic life-saving knowledge to use on that warm August evening. He performed the Heimlich Maneuver on Carrington, dislodging the food and allowing her to breathe freely once again.

I rejoice with Monty Brooks that Carrington is well after this frightening episode. I also commend Monty for his dedication to educating and training others in basic life-saving skills through the American Red Cross preventing the unnecessary deaths of his fellow Hoosiers. Along with Monty Brooks, I encourage Hoosiers and all Americans to get trained and become familiar with basic life-saving skills.

HONORING THE TOWN OF BURLINGTON, CT ON ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Town of Burlington, Connecticut, on the occasion of its bicentennial.

The Town of Burlington emerged from its incorporation in 1806 as a dynamic community. Although the young town relied heavily on agriculture through its small farms, it was also home to several mills and factories, producing goods ranging from muskets to mantel clocks to cider brandy. Today, as many small businesses continue to grow and prosper in Burlington, I would like to commend the many generations of hard-working people who have helped to set such high standards of entrepreneurship and initiative throughout the town's history.

Many outstanding individuals have hailed from Burlington over the past two centuries. Among them were Samuel Monce, inventor of the glass cutter; Colonel Ralph L. Gezelman, who was responsible for organizing the supply shipments for the D-Day invasion; and Herman Humphrey, whose leadership at Amherst College helped transform that school into the fine institution that it is today.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this fine community for its innumerable accomplishments over the course of its first 200 years. As one of the fastest growing towns in Connecticut, Burlington not only has a rich history behind it, but a promising future as well.

TRIBUTE TO ST. MARY'S LAW SCHOOL

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. MCCAUL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of an institution that prides itself on excellence, distinction and integrity—my alma mater St. Mary's Law School.

Located in San Antonio, Texas, St. Mary's Law School is a community of faith and an independent Catholic institution that instills in its students a commitment to public service, and a profound moral and intellectual obligation to the public that its students will someday serve.

I am proud to say that I graduated from St. Mary's Law School in 1987, and the great education of the law and public service that I received there built the foundation for my career as a Member of Congress.

Recently, St. Mary's Law School dedicated their new Center for Terrorism Law. The St. Mary's Center for Terrorism Law is committed to the study of the legal issues associated with both antiterrorism and counterterrorism, with a particular emphasis on cyberterrorism and information assurance technologies.

Through its exceptional curriculum, the Center for Terrorism Law is dedicated to increasing the professional and public understanding of terrorism law, and the balance between en-

suring global security and protecting the civil liberties of all Americans.

As a Member of the Homeland Security Committee and a St. Mary's alumnus, I am encouraged by their commitment to these complex and crucial issues that are at the foundation of America's national security. The education they are providing their students, and the work they are doing in the field of terrorism law will make America a safer place.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST IGNACIO RAMIREZ

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of United States Army Specialist Ignacio Ramirez, who was killed on August 9, 2006, in Ramadi, Iraq while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Ignacio "Nacho" Ramirez was born in Los Angeles on August 23, 1983. He spent the majority of his youth in Henderson, Nevada. He was involved in athletics throughout his youth, playing youth baseball and high school football. He graduated from Basic High School in 2002, and joined the United States Army shortly after graduation.

Specialist Ramirez was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 37th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Division of the United States Army based out of Friedberg, Germany. He lost his life when a roadside bomb exploded near his vehicle.

Specialist Ramirez was a hero whose desire to serve his country will forever make an impact on his family, his community and his country. He joined the Army to help the United States fight the Global War on Terror and he will not only be remembered for his sacrifice and willing service, but for the extraordinary person that he was.

Ignacio's warmth and optimism brightened the lives of his family and friends. He is survived by his loving parents, Marina and Robert Vance; and six siblings, Ofelia Espinoza, Sidney Jimenez, Ivan and Jasmine Ramirez, and James and Tia Vance.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of United States Army Specialist Ignacio Ramirez. Specialist Ramirez made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while defending democracy and freedom. He was a true patriot who served the United States of America with valor and courage. I am saddened by his loss and I extend my deepest sympathies to his family.

TRIBUTE TO VIETNAM WAR VETERAN WILLIAM REES, JR. OF LEVY COUNTY, FL

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William Rees, Jr. of Williston, Florida, a purple heart Veteran from the Vietnam war.

Mr. Rees was wounded in action in April of 1968 when a mine exploded near his station.

As part of the 3rd Squadron, 11th armored cavalry regiment, Mr. Rees and his fellow soldiers faced the enemy in battle many times throughout that fateful month.

During April, his squadron destroyed seven hundred and twenty-five enemy bunkers and recorded forty-nine vietnamese soldiers killed in action. Additionally, Mr., Rees and his fellow troops confiscated significant weapons caches, numerous documents, utensils, food, and medical supplies.

Veterans of the Vietnam war made tremendous sacrifices in the name of freedom. More than 300,000 brave soldiers were wounded during the war, many of them disabled for life.

This level of sacrifice required a great amount of courage, strength, and devotion to the preservation of the American ideals of democracy and freedom for all. It is by remembering their sacrifices that we can celebrate the end of such a difficult conflict.

Mr. Speaker, veterans like William Rees, Jr. should be recognized for their service to our nation and for their commitment and sacrifices in battle. I am honored to have presented Mr. Rees with his long overdue purple heart. He should know that we truly consider him one of America's heroes.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. BONNIE REESE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and pleasure that I stand before you today to recognize the many accomplishments of Mrs. Bonnie Reese. I can truly say that Bonnie is a dedicated, distinguished, and honorable citizen. I have known Bonnie for many years, and she is one of the most involved citizens I have ever known, especially when it comes to her service to the community. Bonnie has served her community of Jasper County in some political capacity for 35 years, and her overall service to the community is immeasurable. For many years, Bonnie has been a constant fixture in the Jasper County Democratic Party. For her efforts, she will be honored at an event hosted by the Jasper County Democrats on Friday, September 8, 2006, at the American Legion Post #406 in Wheatfield, Indiana.

Bonnie Reese began her career with the Jasper County Democratic Party in 1971, at which time she served as the Party's Secretary. After serving 4 years in that position with unwavering professionalism and dedication, Bonnie was named to the position of Vice Chair. For over 30 years, Bonnie has maintained this post, and she has done so with complete loyalty to the Democratic Party and to the people of her community. When called upon to address the needs of the community, Bonnie has always been a willing servant. Because of her commitment and care for the citizens of Jasper County, Bonnie was also elected First District Vice Chair in 2004. In addition, she has the distinction of being the first female elected to the Jasper County Council. However, not only was Bonnie the only woman on the Council, but also the sole Democrat. Bonnie's knowledge of the government and her willingness to serve have made her very successful in all of the positions she has held.

Indisputably, Bonnie Reese has been extremely successful throughout her career in public office. However, her efforts to support and contribute to her community have extended beyond her political service. Aside from her public service, Bonnie is also known for her skills as an organist. Many people in the community know her from her service to her church, the Tefft United Methodist Church, where she serves not only as the church's organist, but also as its choir director.

When not engaged within the community, Bonnie spends her spare time with those closest to her, her family. A loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Bonnie's commitment to her community is surpassed only by her love for her family. Bonnie has been married to her husband, Roy, for 48 years. She and Roy, a retiree of U.S. Steel after 40 years of service, have four sons: Daniel, Michael, Richard, and Douglas. Roy and Bonnie are proud grandparents of 14, and they also have one great-grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, Bonnie Reese has given her time and efforts selflessly to the people of Jasper County throughout her years of service. At this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending her for her lifetime of service and dedication.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR. FRED A. CURLS

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the achievements of Mr. Fred Curls, a pioneer for civil and political rights, and a resident of the Fifth District of Missouri, which I am honored to represent. This week, Mr. Curls is to be inducted into the Missouri Walk of Fame during a reception as part of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference, an event held to honor the achievements of African-Americans who have made significant contributions to Missouri. He is one of the original Founders of Freedom Incorporated, an African-American political organization which at one time could generate nearly 70,000 votes. Freedom Inc. was and has been very influential in delivering votes for a candidate or a cause.

The organization has been at the forefront in serving as a catalyst for change in civil rights, public accommodations, and the election of candidates at all levels of government. Its office has been visited by City Councilpersons, Mayors, Governors, Congresspersons, Senators, and persons with Presidential aspirations. For nearly forty-five years, Mr. Curls has dedicated his life to the Greater Kansas City community, promoting and improving political empowerment and civil rights of people of color. His son, State Senator Phil B. Curls, Sr. was the President of Freedom Inc. when I was Chairman. It was a period when Freedom Inc. was recognized as one of the most potent political organizations in the United States and brought about the election of the first African-American Congressman from the Fifth District of Missouri, U.S. Representative Alan Wheat.

Since the mid-1950's, Mr. Curls has been involved in real estate sales and appraisals,

most notably in the African American community of Kansas City. He fought against "restrictive covenants" whereby residential homes could not be sold in certain areas to minorities. He was part of a class action lawsuit which resulted in the United States Supreme Court outlawing such covenants.

In all of his activities, he demonstrates his dedication and commitment to the greater good of others. He is actively involved with his high school graduating class, the "Class of 1937," which has been very close to this day. They have started the Lincoln High Alumni Association which gives scholarships to deserving young adults to go to college. He was recently honored by Jackson County, Missouri as one of its "Legacy Awardees" for its 175th anniversary as a political subdivision.

Throughout his life, he has believed in the saying "make it happen." He has put his principles to practice, and the effects of his efforts have "made it happen" throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area.

For those reasons and more, it is indeed an honor and privilege to recognize Mr. Fred Curls at the Missouri Walk of Fame reception, hosted by myself and fellow Missourian, U.S. Representative William Lacy Clay of St. Louis.

Mr. Speaker, just as this body has honored Dr. Martin Luther King as an outspoken pioneer and one of the historians of the civil rights struggle, and has honored Buck O'Neill was one of the historians for those who toiled in the Negro Leagues rather than the Major Leagues, we should now give honor to Fred Curls as one of the historians of Kansas City's African-American political struggle. He was active in promoting equality, elevating African-Americans from a second class citizenship to a first class citizenship to be recognized by all. Whatever we, as African-Americans, may attain in the political arena, Fred Curls, and those who labored to act on our behalf as political pioneers, have helped to change the course of history. In the year that this 109th Congress has approved the extension of the Voting Rights Act, it is with great pride that we honor one of our active, long-time heroes with this Missouri Walk of Fame. Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our appreciation to Mr. Fred Curls and his endless commitment to serving the residents of the State of Missouri. He is a true role model not just to the African-American community in Missouri, but to the entire community at large.

IN HONOR OF THE CAREER OF COACH EDDIE JACKSON

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Coach Eddie Jackson. Coach Jackson has been a guiding light to the youth of Arkansas and Texas for more than 35 years. On July 21st he was honored with an induction into the Arkansas High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

After graduating from Fairview High School in 1963, Coach Jackson went on to receive a BSE from Southern Arkansas University and an MSE from Henderson State University. Within months of graduating college he joined the Prescott High School football and track

staffs, winning district championships in his first year. In 1973, his first year as a head football coach, Coach Jackson won the first of three state championships at Prescott. His last state championship came in 1995, his final year as head coach.

Track and field has always held a special place in Coach Jackson's heart. During his distinguished career, he has amassed numerous titles and honors. While at Prescott, Coach Jackson won 15 district titles, was state runner-up twice and won an impressive three state championships. He has also served as the state track meet director twice and was an official at the Southeastern Conference Outdoor Championships.

After leaving Prescott, Coach Jackson went on to coach one season at Hampton before moving to Texarkana and coaching one year at Texas High and two at Liberty-Eylau. In 2002, Coach Jackson became middle school athletic coordinator in Hooks, Texas while also coaching middle school football and track.

Since Prescott is my hometown, I had the privilege to see first-hand the lives this man touched not, only in sports but in the community as well. On July 21st Coach Jackson joined 10 other outstanding coaches to be inducted into the Arkansas High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

I am so pleased to have the opportunity to properly recognize Coach Eddie Jackson before the United States Congress for his outstanding contributions to the communities and youth he has touched in Arkansas and Texas. Please join me in congratulating Coach Jackson on his induction into the Arkansas High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE BESLAN MASSACRE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sympathy over the terrible tragedy that took place just over two years ago in the southern Russian city of Beslan. This nightmare began on September 1, 2004, the first day of school when over 1000 students, parents, and teachers were forced by terrorists at gunpoint into a gymnasium rigged with explosives. These young students and others were held hostage for three days without access to food or water while the sick and wounded were denied access to medical treatment. In the end, nearly 400 people lost their lives, including 186 children, and over 700 people were wounded in the savage and senseless acts of violence that occurred in Beslan.

Words alone cannot adequately convey the heartache and sorrow over this barbaric act of terrorism. Having an entire Russian school taken hostage by terrorists was shocking. As the world watched, hoping against hope that this would somehow be resolved peacefully, it was horrible to learn on September 3rd that there had been massive loss of innocent lives in the early afternoon of that day.

Mr. Speaker, we continue to grieve for those children and their families and join with other Americans in solidarity with the Russian people on this somber second anniversary of the Beslan massacre.

As Americans we know what it is like to watch—helplessly and in horror—as merciless acts of terrorism are committed against innocent people. We will never forget the tremendous outpouring of sympathy from the people of Russia following the tragic events of September 11, 2001. This support was much appreciated by our wounded nation and helped us through the dark days in the immediate aftermath of the senseless violence of that fateful day.

As both our nations mourn the losses of September 3rd and September 11th, let us find hope in the countless stories of humanitarian acts that surrounded those horrible events. Colleagues, let us remember the heroism of our first responders, the valor of our troops, and the generosity of our communities in their collective response to these tragedies. May the God of mercy grant His peace to all those who continue to suffer from the violence of those tragic days.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast rollcall vote 418 through rollcall vote 426 on July 27, 2006, and July 28, 2006, because I was unavoidably detained on official business.

Had I been present, I would have cast the following votes: On rollcall vote No. 418, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall vote No. 419, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall vote No. 420, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall vote No. 421, I would have voted "nay"; on rollcall vote No. 422, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall vote No. 423, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall vote No. 424, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall vote No. 425, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall vote No. 426, I would have voted "aye."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ANDRE AGASSI

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Andre Agassi as he retires from a 20-year professional tennis career.

Andre Agassi was born on April 29, 1970, in Las Vegas, NV, to Elizabeth and Emmanuel "Mike" Agassi. When he was an infant, Andre's father hung tennis balls above his crib in the hopes that he would some day become a tennis champion. From the time he could walk and hold a racquet effectively, Andre practiced his game, hitting up to 5,000 balls a day. By age 5, he was practicing with pros such as Jimmy Connors and Roscoe Tanner. At the age of 14, Andre's father sent him to train at Nick Bollettieri's Tennis Academy in Florida. Two years later, in 1986, he turned professional, winning his first top-level singles title in 1987 at the Sul America Open in Itaparica, Brazil.

Andre has won eight Grand Slam singles titles and has achieved a total of 60 career sin-

gles titles with one career doubles title. Andre is one of only five players to win all four Grand Slam events in his career: four Australian Open titles, one French Open, one Wimbledon, and two U.S. Opens. Furthermore, Andre won the men's singles gold medal at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, and in 1999 was ranked the No. 1 player in the world.

In addition to his achievements on the court, Andre participates in many charity organizations and founded the Andre Agassi Charitable Association (AACA), whose mission statement is to provide educational and recreational institutions and activities for abandoned, abused, and at-risk kids. Every year, the AACA holds a concert benefit entitled Grand Slam for Children, featuring performances by artists such as Celine Dion, Robin Williams, and Sir Elton John. After its 11th year, the event has successfully raised over \$50 million for the at-risk children of Las Vegas. In 1995, he won the ATP Arthur Ashe Humanitarian award in recognition of his efforts for helping disadvantaged youth in Las Vegas. In 1997, Andre opened the Boys & Girls Club to assist the youth of Las Vegas, which features a junior tennis team, Team Agassi, as well as a basketball program, the Agassi Stars. In 2001, Andre opened the Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy in Las Vegas, NV, a K–12 public charter school founded on the principle that nothing can impact on a child's life more than the education they receive. Additionally, through the AACA, he supports Clark County's only residential facility for abused and neglected children called Child Haven, donating funds for a six-room classroom building now named the Agassi Center for Education. His foundation also provided \$720,000 to assist in the building of the Andre Agassi Cottage for Medically Fragile Children.

In addition to his professional success and his contributions to the community, Andre is a dedicated family man; he is the loving husband of former tennis champion Steffi Graf, and the devoted father to 4-year-old son Jaden Gil and 2-year-old daughter Jaz Elle.

The consummate sportsman, Andre praised his fans following his match on Sunday, September 3, 2006 at the U.S. Open. This match brought to a close one of the most impressive professional careers in all of sports. After walking off the court, Andre said "The scoreboard said I lost today, but what the scoreboard doesn't say is what I've found. Over the last 21 years, I've found loyalty. You have pulled for me on the court and also in life. I have found inspiration. You have willed me to succeed sometimes in my lowest moments." He will always be No. 1 in the world, not only as an athlete, but also as a great humanitarian. Andre has willed our community and children to succeed at some of our lowest moments.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Andre Agassi. I would like to offer Andre my sincerest congratulations on an esteemed career, my warmest thanks for his ongoing contributions to the Las Vegas community, and wish him much luck in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE NORTHERN LITTLE LEAGUE TEAM OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay special tribute and congratulate the 2006 Little League World Champions, the Northern Little League team of Columbus, Georgia.

The victory by our Northern Little Leaguers over the undefeated Kawaguchi City team representing Japan, makes them only the second team from Georgia to win a World Championship. While a team from Marietta won in 1983, our team is only the second team from Georgia to ever qualify for this event in its entire 60 year history.

As the Member of Congress representing Columbus and Muscogee County, Georgia, where most of the young men live, I can not tell you how proud we all are of this fine young team.

The entire city and surrounding community was thrilled by the success of its native sons. The Columbus Northern Little League players are not only world champions; they are hometown heroes and celebrities as well.

These young men represented the city of Columbus, the State of Georgia and indeed, our great nation, in the finest tradition of the Little League, and what it stands for and represents—teamwork, sportsmanship and camaraderie.

The spirit of sportsmanship was no more apparent than this year. After winning the Championship game, the entire Columbus team walked over to their opponents dugout, and invited the Japanese team to help them hoist the championship banner and to join them in taking the victory lap around the field. Then, side by side, the two teams scooped up dirt from the infield to keep as souvenirs.

I also want to pay tribute to the parents of these young men. Any parent of a little league baseball player, or for that matter, football, soccer or other sports knows and appreciates the love and commitment needed to be successful in these activities.

Let me also pay tribute to the dedicated Columbus fans, hundreds of whom took the 900-mile trip to Williamsport from Columbus to support our team, as well as the other Little League teams in the Columbus area, and the many volunteers, sponsors and supporters who have dedicated themselves to Little League sports year after year.

Throughout the World Series, it was clear that our Northern Little Leaguers were well schooled and prepared, which in large part, points to the hard work and dedication of the team's Manager—Randy Morris, and Coach—Richard Carter.

But it was the members of the team themselves who had to put it all together on the field. And I would like to pay special tribute to each one of the team members individually, including: Brady Hamilton #6, Ryan Lang #18, Josh Lester #4, Matthew Hollis #10, Patrick Stallings #25, Mason Meyers #16, Kyle Rovig #8, Matthew Kuhlberg #7, Cody Walker #21, Kyle Carter #19, and J.T. Phillips #22.

Babe Ruth once said, "Baseball was, is and always will be to me the best game in the world."

And indeed, for the millions of Little League fans around the world, the 2006 Little League Championship game will go down as one of the best single games in the history of the event.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT
CHRISTOPHER SWANSON

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the tragic death of a young soldier from Anne Arundel County, Maryland, who gave the ultimate measure of sacrifice in the global war on terror, saddens all of us. As we continue to fight this war, the loss of each and every service member is a tragedy.

Anne Arundel County, the state of Maryland, and our Nation lost a great hero when Army Staff Sergeant Christopher Swanson of Rose Haven was killed in Anbar on July 22.

More than 50 of Maryland's bravest have now died in the war in Iraq.

Christopher Swanson was completely dedicated to protecting his fellow troops. He wrote on his personal website, "I would do anything for them even if it means giving my life to save theirs."

Swanson was highly regarded in his family and community. As a teenager, he traveled on mission trips with members of the First Baptist Church in Upper Marlboro, providing the hope of a better life to gang members in West Virginia and Ohio.

He was the captain of his soccer team at Southern High School, where faculty remembered a "happy go-lucky kid that was always lending a hand."

In August of 1999, Sergeant Swanson enlisted in the Army, even as others tried to talk him out of it. He served in Kosovo as a member of the 82nd Airborne Division, and was part of the initial assault on Iraq in March of 2003, the first of three tours.

Sergeant Swanson was awarded two purple hearts, one after being injured by an improvised explosive device just weeks before he was killed. He persevered, telling his brother Kenneth that he would not be sidelined.

Christopher Swanson gave his life for all of us. As his representative in Congress, I am grateful for his patriotism and his sacrifice. The Fifth District of Maryland and all Americans join the Swanson family in mourning the loss of this fine young man, a real hero.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF JUDGE
JOHN W. GOODSON

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Judge John W. Goodson, a true treasure to the community of Texarkana, Arkansas, and to the entire state of Arkansas. Judge Goodson passed away August 18, 2006, in Texarkana, Arkansas, at the age of 80.

John W. Goodson began practicing law in 1951 and was known as a "gentle giant" in

the courtroom because of his imposing height, booming voice and tender heart. Throughout his distinguished career as a lawyer and Circuit Judge, John Goodson was a mentor and a friend to many. Some of those he mentored moved on to become international lawyers, elected prosecutors, Circuit Judges, Arkansas Supreme Court Judges and a federal Judge.

Judge Goodson served as the presiding Circuit Judge in courts in Miller, Lafayette, Hempstead and Nevada counties in Southwest Arkansas.

Judge Goodson was a World War II Air Force Veteran, a member of the Arkansas Masonic Lodge, and a board member and former Sunday school teacher at the First United Methodist Church in Texarkana, Arkansas.

Nothing meant more in the life of John W. Goodson than the love he had for his family. This love was evident in all he did, from his active involvement in his church to his role as a community leader.

My condolences go out to his wife, Doris; his daughters Jan Murphy and Mary Jane Briggs; his son John Goodson; and his three granddaughters, Jane Anne Murphy, Wesley Hana Goodson and Mary Claire Briggs. Judge Goodson will be sorely missed in Texarkana and throughout the state of Arkansas.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF DR. GAYLE HOLLIDAY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the achievements of Dr. Gayle Holliday, an important resident of the Fifth District of Missouri, which I am honored to represent. This week, Dr. Holliday is to be inducted into the Missouri Walk of Fame during a reception as part of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference, an event held to honor the achievements of African-Americans who have made significant contributions to Missouri. I had the privilege of nominating Gayle for the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses' Celebration of Leadership Unsung Hero Award. While this award carries no monetary prize, it is no less a testament to her devotion to bettering our area. For more than 35 years, Gayle has dedicated her life to the Greater Kansas City community, promoting and improving socio-economic conditions, political empowerment and civil rights of people of color.

Dr. Holliday holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, a Masters in Public Administration, and a Ph.D. in Management and Applied Technology. She is the President and Owner of G & H Consulting, LLC, which has been in business for more than 10 years, helping clients in the public, private and non-profit sectors with strategic planning and business plan development. She was recently appointed by Jackson County, Missouri to oversee the minority and women hiring by contractors and subcontractors for the Truman Sports Complex renovation, which is home of the Kansas City Chiefs and the Kansas City Royals. Additionally, under President Bill Clinton, Gayle was selected as one of a small group of individuals to represent the transportation industry on the President's transition team.

Civically, Dr. Holliday serves on twelve boards in the Greater Kansas City Area with varied interests such as healthcare, education, economic development, and diversity in such areas as race, sex, and religion. Through these community activities, Gayle amasses more than 70 hours of community service each month. She is also a member of the church I pastor, St. James United Methodist Church, and finds time to serve as chair of the Pastor Parish Staff Relations Committee. In all of her activities, she demonstrates her dedication and commitment to the greater good of others. Her high energy pace translates directly to the results she is able to obtain for the benefit of all in the Greater Kansas City Area. Regardless of whether she is in the trenches or the boardroom, her poise and thoughtfulness is ever present.

Throughout her life, Dr. Gayle Holliday has exercised a tireless belief in the principle of putting "others" before "self." She has put her principles to practice, and the effects of her efforts can be felt throughout the Kansas City Metropolitan Area.

For those reasons and more, it is indeed an honor and privilege to recognize Dr. Holliday at the Missouri Walk of Fame reception, hosted by myself and fellow Missourian, U.S. Representative WILLIAM LACY CLAY of St. Louis.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our appreciation to Dr. Gayle Holliday and her endless commitment to serving the residents of the State of Missouri. She is a true role model not just to the African-American community in Missouri, but to the entire African-American community at large. May her success serve as a stepping stone for many other African-Americans eager to be just as successful in their endeavors. While it is but a small acknowledgement for all of the work she has done, it is a heartfelt gesture, taking strength from the myriad lives she has touched in our hometown.

TRIBUTE TO NORTHWEST INDIANA
FEDERATION OF LABOR

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate some of the most devoted and proficient workers in Northwest Indiana. The Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor AFL-CIO will recognize several individuals for their dedication during the 32nd Annual Community Awards Reception to be held at the Duneland Falls Banquet Center in Chesterton, Indiana on Thursday, August 31, 2006. These individuals, in addition to the other Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor members who have served Northwest Indiana so diligently for such a long period of time, are a tribute to the ideal American worker: loyal, dedicated, and hardworking.

At this year's event, several individuals will receive special recognition. Mr. Thomas Conway, United Steelworkers International Union Vice President, is this year's recipient of the President's Award. Mr. Conway is being honored for enhancing the well-being of workers throughout Northwest Indiana by countless contributions which further the philosophy of the Labor Movement.

Mr. James W. Callahan, City of Hammond Building Commissioner, will receive the Service to Labor Award for special recognition in assisting organized labor to improve the quality of life for workers in Northwest Indiana.

On behalf of the Pangere Corporation, Mr. Steve Pangere, President, will be presented with this year's Union Label Award for unselfish devotion to the Labor movement through its promotion in all areas of endeavor.

On behalf of the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers Local 26 and Roofers Local 26 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee Apprentice Program, Mr. Jeff Lussow, Business Manager, and Mr. Keith Vitkovich, Apprenticeship Coordinator, will accept the Community Service Award for exemplary service to the community and the enhancement of the quality of life for all.

Mr. Patrick Malott, Sr., United Steelworkers #6787, will receive the George Meany Scout Award, an honor bestowed upon him by the Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. James G. Stemmler, Business Manager for the Iron Workers Local 395, will be honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. The exceptional service he has provided to the community deserves our admiration and respect. His dedication and commitment demonstrated for his community is representative of the values we cherish in Northwest Indiana.

For the 2006 Business Sector Awards, Mr. John C. Mang is this year's recipient of the President's Award. The years of hard work he has put forth are a true inspiration to all. Mr. Calvin E. Bellamy is this year's recipient of the Retail/Wholesale Sector Award, while Mr. Mike Schaller, President, Schaller and Mandemack Construction, Incorporated, will receive the Building Trades Sector Award. Finally, Mr. Don Potrebic, Lake County Councilman and retired member of the United Steelworkers Local 1014, will be honored with this year's Service/Municipal Sector Award.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in its craftsmanship and loyalty by its tradesmen. These individuals are all outstanding examples of these qualities. They have demonstrated their loyalty to both the union and the community through their hard work and self-sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these dedicated, honorable, and outstanding citizens, in addition to all of the hardworking union men and women in America. They have shown commitment and courage toward their pursuits, and I am proud to represent them in Washington, DC.

HONORING RICHARD GIMBL

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to rise in honor of an American hero and one of the bravest firemen that Long Island has ever known, Mr. Richard Gimbl, Chief of the Holbrook Fire Department.

It is a tremendous privilege for me to inform the House that Chief Gimbl was recently selected by the great State of New York as its 2006 "Fireman of the Year." This award is the most recent of a long and highly prestigious

list of decorations bestowed upon Chief Gimbl throughout a remarkably distinguished career exemplified by valor, sacrifice and selfless dedication to his fellow firemen and on behalf of a grateful community that he served and protected for 36 years.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Gimbl has answered the call time and again. He was dispatched to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands to help with the relief and recovery from the violent hurricanes of the late 1980s. As part of a FEMA relief unit, he responded to the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995. And he was there at Ground Zero on September 11th when the World Trade Center and so many of our bravest firemen fell.

At a time in our Nation's history when the ever-present threat of terrorism and natural disasters continue to imperil our safety and security here at home, we need and are deeply grateful for heroes like Chief Gimbl, who set the bar for a higher standard of commitment and bravery consistently demonstrated by our first responders, and who comfort us each day by the blanket of security they provide at the expense of tremendous sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, as Chief Gimbl recovers from injuries sustained in the line of duty last year, we join with his family, fellow firefighters at the Holbrook FD, and the entire Long Island community in expressing our sincere best wishes for a full and speedy recovery and to assure each of them that he will remain in our thoughts and prayers.

15TH ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, August 24th marked the fifteenth anniversary of Ukraine's rebirth as an independent state, finally being freed from the shackles of Soviet misrule that included a reign of terror, cultural suppression and a genocidal famine.

The last fifteen years have witnessed peaks and valleys as the Ukrainian people have struggled to overcome the legacy of communism and Moscow's imperialism. While the process of Ukraine's restoration is still a work in progress, great strides have been made to consolidate that nation as an independent, free and democratic state. The December 1, 1991 referendum on independence, the 1996 Constitution and especially the 2004 Orange Revolution stand as highlights, demonstrating Ukrainian resolve for independence, rule of law, democracy and freedom, and the continuing promise of a better life.

In contrast to the first 13 years of independence, Ukraine is now "free", and not merely "partly free." The March 26 parliamentary election was one of the freest and fairest ever held among post-Soviet states. The Ukrainian economy is on the road to recovery and development after the initial post-Soviet decline of the 1990s. Ukraine is a responsible neighbor and has shown its mettle as a partner for peace and security in the world.

Of course, challenges remain despite the real progress that has been made. There have been missed opportunities. Many of the promises of the Orange Revolution are only par-

tially fulfilled. The rule of law, including a truly independent judiciary, remains to be consolidated. Corruption, although not as egregious as before the Orange Revolution, still rears its ugly head. Many Ukrainians believe all too many among the political elites look first toward their personal interests rather than to the good of the people and of the nation they are supposed to serve. As the last months have demonstrated, political stability can be elusive, and it remains to be seen what direction the new government will take. Nevertheless, Ukraine continues to show tremendous potential, and I am firmly convinced that this still relatively young 15-year-old independent state will fulfill its potential.

Mr. Speaker, in looking over the last fifteen years, we must not forget the sacrifices of millions who fought for Ukraine's liberty over the course of the last century, often against great odds and at great personal risk. Whether in the struggle for Ukraine's short-lived independence in 1918-21, or the insurgent armies that fought against both Nazi and Soviet rule during and after World War II, many Ukrainians made the ultimate sacrifice.

More recently, in the final decades of Soviet domination, Ukrainian Helsinki Monitors and other human rights activists challenged the system, calling upon the Kremlin to live up to commitments voluntarily undertaken when Leonid Brezhnev signed the 1975 Helsinki Final Act. One such renowned activist, Ukrainian Helsinki Monitor Nadia Svitlychna, who served three years in a Soviet labor camp for her tireless defense of human rights and freedom, died last month. We honor the memory of Mrs. Svitlychna, recalling that it was courageous and dedicated individuals like her who, as much as anyone, paved the way for an independent, democratic Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the role that the Helsinki Commission, which I Co-Chair, has played throughout its 30-year existence in firmly supporting human rights and freedom for Ukraine. I am pleased that the Congress has stood firm in support of Ukraine and am confident that the United States will continue to extend the hand of friendship as Ukraine moves toward its rightful place as a fully integrated member of the Euro-Atlantic community of nations.

TRIBUTE TO MARK CHESNUTT

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Chesnutt on this day September 6, 2006, his 43rd birthday. This outstanding country music star currently has 14 No. 1 hits, 23 top ten singles, four platinum albums, five gold records, and continually maintains a hefty live tour schedule.

Born in Beaumont, TX, Mark got his start playing in honky-tonk bars throughout his hometown area singing alongside his father, Bob Chesnutt. His dad traveled often to Nashville and started taking Mark along at 17 where he was soon discovered by talent agents who recognized the vocal and authentic talents Mark possesses.

Signed at 17 by MCA, Mark soon won the coveted Country Music Association's Horizon

Award recognizing the industry's top new talent. At the awards ceremony, he was introduced by legendary country music star George Jones who remarked, "This boy from Beaumont, Texas is the real deal."

Throughout the 90's Mark's singles continued to light up the chart including some of the decade's most memorable up-tempo hits like "Bubba Shot the Jukebox" and "Going Through the Big D." Also accelerating his rise to stardom were hits like the emotional ballads "I'll Think of Something" and "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing."

Mark's excellence continues today combining world-class vocals and awe-inspiring stage performances that leave crowds standing in ovation until they themselves are hoarse! Most remarkable of all, he stays true to his roots keeping the traditional country music style he was raised on in an ever-changing country music landscape.

Mark Chesnutt is a true gift to Country Music and specifically the 8th District of Texas. Not only has he blessed us with musical hit after hit, he also has tirelessly given of his time and talent to assist east and south-east Texas in their recovery from the devastating effects of Hurricane Rita. Mark also has a wonderful marriage to Tracie Chesnutt with three beautiful children: Waylon, Casey, and Cameron.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for helping me honor Mark Chesnutt, this America country music superstar, on his 43rd birthday.

**CONGRATULATING RONNIE LOPEZ
FOR HIS INDUCTION INTO VALLE
DEL SOL'S HALL OF FAME**

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to proudly pay tribute to an Arizonan who has exemplified the meanings of leadership, commitment to community, social justice and integrity. He is a highly-regarded leader not only in Arizona, but nationally, and someone whom I am proud to call my friend—Mr. Ronnie López.

For more than 30 years, Ronnie López has been a leader in various community and political endeavors that have improved the quality of life for Arizona's residents. For his work, he will be entered into the Valle Del Sol Hall of Fame during the 16th Annual Profiles of Success Hispanic Leadership Awards Celebration on September 8, 2006, in Phoenix, Arizona.

Born in Miami, Arizona, Ronnie and his two brothers were raised by a single parent, Mrs. Vera López, after the death of his father. Ronnie married his high school sweetheart, Angie, and together they headed to Phoenix in the late 1960's to pursue higher education ;cmd new opportunities. They have two outstanding sons, Paul and Marcos, and Paul and his wife Elizabeth are expecting a daughter in December, another point of pride for Ronnie as a first-time grandfather.

Ronnie served in the administration of Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt for ten years, ultimately serving as his Chief of Staff. Ronnie

had the honor of twice administering the oath of office to Babbitt: when then Attorney General Bruce Babbitt succeeded to the governorship in 1979 and again in 1993 when Babbitt became the Secretary of Interior. He has served and continues to serve on numerous boards and commissions, including Bank of America, Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, Friends of Sky Harbor Advisory Board, and the Governor's Commission on the September 11th Memorial.

Most recently, Ronnie served as the co-chair of the 2006 City of Phoenix Bond Committee the work of which voters approved in March 2006. Ronnie also is the former presiding Justice of the Peace of the West Phoenix Precinct in Maricopa County. Ronnie also led the establishment of community based organizations like Valle del Sol, Inc., and Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc., two of the Valley's leading non-profit Hispanic advocacy organizations.

He also has served on numerous political campaigns and sits on the National Democratic Business Council. Among his many accolades, in the year 2000, he was listed as one of the "Most Influential Hispanics" by Hispanic Business Magazine.

Mr. Speaker, as you can surmise, Ronnie López, a Miami Vandal, has exhibited a tireless and visionary commitment to making Arizona a better place to live for all people. He is an exemplary leader and a profoundly committed individual who is a true role model for the nation. Therefore, I am pleased to pay tribute to my friend Ronnie López, and I know my colleagues will join me in thanking him and wishing him great success.

**TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND ENCOURAGE
CONGRESS'S SUPPORT FOR
SEPTEMBER 9-10 DESIGNATED AS
LUPUS AWARENESS WEEKEND**

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to emphasize the importance of raising awareness about Lupus, as well as recognizing it as one of America's major diseases. It is important to note more Americans have this disease than cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, sickle-cell anemia and cystic fibrosis combined.

In raising awareness about this devastating disease, I joined many of my colleagues in supporting increased funding for public and health professional programs which raise awareness and understanding about lupus. Furthermore, I stand with many of my colleagues in strengthening the Nation's research efforts to identify the causes of and cure for lupus.

I believe one of the more important ways of raising awareness is encouraging education about the disease and recognizing the symptoms. However, as many of the symptoms experienced by those who have lupus mimic other diseases, lupus is very often hard to diagnose. There is no cure for lupus and researchers have yet to learn what causes the

disease. It is of interest to note, lupus occurs more frequently in women and is also two to three times more common among African Americans, Hispanics, Asians and Native Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to support September 9 through 10 as Lupus Awareness Weekend. I am hopeful with increased professional awareness and improved techniques for diagnosing patients we can ensure early treatment options as well as early diagnosis. It is of utmost importance we remain vigilant in improving access to information about this disease and ensuring funding levels remain adequate.

**RECOGNITION OF RAYMOND C.
BORGIA OF THE GLENWOOD
SCHOOL FOR BOYS AND GIRLS**

HON. MELISSA L. BEAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. BEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and thank Raymond C. Borgia for his exemplary service at the Glenwood School for Boys and Girls located in Glenwood, IL.

A student himself at Glenwood from 1938 to 1949, Mr. Borgia excelled as a student leader serving as a battalion commander from 1947 through 1949. Mr. Borgia was awarded an officer's saber in 1947 and awarded the prestigious Glenwood Schools' Wilfred Sykes Award in 1949.

After attending Northern Illinois University in 1949 to 1950, Mr. Borgia served as a combat infantryman in the Korean war from 1950 to 1953. To honor his heroic service to our country, he was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. After leaving active duty in 1953, Mr. Borgia went on to serve in the U.S. Army Reserves for 17 years.

Upon his return to Illinois, Mr. Borgia enrolled at the Chicago Technical College where he obtained a degree in industrial engineering in 1955.

In January 1957, he began as an instructor at the Glenwood School for Boys and Girls. During his distinguished career at Glenwood, Mr. Borgia served as a camp director, military instructor, football coach, baseball coach, dean and vice president of the school. Over the last half century, Mr. Borgia has committed his life to being a mentor and role model to generations of young men and women.

On December 31, 2006, Raymond Borgia will retire after 50 years of service at the Glenwood School for Boys and Girls. To commemorate his many contributions to Glenwood, the school named a military award as well as the dining hall at Glenwood's Wisconsin camp after Mr. Borgia.

He celebrates his retirement with his wife of 45 years, Manuela, his three sons and their wives, six grandchildren and generations of Glenwood students and friends. Although Mr. Borgia is leaving Glenwood School for Boys and Girls, his impact on the thousands of students he has instructed will last for many years to come.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT JESSICA HILL TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Lieutenant Jessica Hill, who perished on August 17th in the line of duty for our country.

Lt. Hill was proud to serve in the United States Coast Guard, and she earned the respect and admiration of many. She joined the Coast Guard in October, 2001 after earning a Master's Degree, and was stationed at MSO San Francisco where she decided to become a Coast Guard Dive Officer.

After successfully completing dive school, Lt. Hill was assigned to the Cutter *Healy*, one of the Coast Guard's three polar ice cutters, as a marine science and dive officer. With her positive attitude, easy laugh and constant smile, she also served as Morale Officer for the crew of that vessel.

Lieutenant Jessica Hill's ambition, training and passion served to inspire her entire unit, her shipmates, her family and many outside the Coast Guard. She has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and was regarded as a good Coastie, a woman of honor and a patriot.

We should all remember Jessica's life, courage and ultimate sacrifice in service for our Nation.

A native of St. Augustine, Jessica was a loving daughter to Mr. William Hill and Mrs. Dawn Zimmerman, and sister to Mrs. Adrienne Gullet. To all of Jessica's family, we know she will be dearly missed and we extend our deepest sympathy.

Mr. Speaker, because of Lieutenant Jessica Hill's sacrifice for our country, I ask all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing her service in our Nation's Coast Guard and remembering both her life and her dedication to the United States of America.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF MACK BALL, SR.

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mack Ball, Sr., who passed away August 8, 2006, in Eudora, Arkansas at the age of 75.

Mack Ball, Sr. was dedicated to improving his home community of Eudora, Arkansas. He served the community as Mayor for 12 years and was the presiding Chicot County Judge. Mack Ball, Sr. was also a committed member of the Eudora Chamber of Commerce. He took a particular interest in improving public education opportunities in Eudora and served on Eudora Public School Board. In addition he was a past national board member of the Beefmaster Breeders Universal.

Mack Ball, Sr. was a man devoted to his faith and was a member of the Eudora Baptist Church where he served as a deacon and as a Sunday school teacher.

My deepest condolences go to his wife, Leila Ball; his son Mack Ball, Jr.; his daughter Sally Tisdale and husband Stephen; his daughter Kathryn Phillips and her husband Doug; his brother Fred Felts, Jr.; his five grandchildren Mary Kathryn Gilfoil, Allan Phillips, David Phillips, Meg Phillips, and Elizabeth Cooper; and his two great grandchildren. Mack Ball, Sr. will be greatly missed in Chicot County and throughout the state of Arkansas.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR. PETER YELORDA

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the achievements of Mr. Peter Yelorda, a person who has spent nearly 35 years as a leader in the corporate and public sector, and a resident of the Fifth District of Missouri, which I am honored to represent. This week, Mr. Yelorda is to be inducted into the Missouri Walk of Fame during a reception as part of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference, an event held to honor the achievements of African-Americans who have made significant contributions to Missouri.

Peter holds a Bachelor of Science in Science from Eastern Michigan University, and a Masters in Education from the University of Michigan specializing in Public Policy, Community and National Planning and Development. He is the Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City and has served in that capacity for nine years. In his role as a senior executive at his company, Peter is one of the highest ranking African-American executives in the Greater Kansas City Area. Prior to joining Blue Cross Blue Shield, he was Assistant City Manager of the City of Kansas City, Missouri while I was Mayor.

Civically, Peter serves on nine boards in the Greater Kansas City Area, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the University of Missouri-Kansas City Board of Trustees, Urban League, and others. He serves as the Chairperson for the Full Employment Council, Chairman of the TIF Commission and Co-Chair of the Downtown Economic Stimulus Authority. In addition, he serves as the Chair of the Jazz District Redevelopment Corporation, the not-for-profit entity organized to revitalize the Historic 18th and Vine Jazz District. Under Peter's leadership, senior housing, a restaurant, and young adult housing were born. Mr. Yelorda is respected by business and community activists alike. Through these activities, Peter spends a considerable amount of time in service to the community each month. In all of his activities, he demonstrates his dedication and commitment to the greater good of others. Regardless of his leadership role, he always conducts himself with dedication, poise, and thoughtfulness, being mindful of all concerns.

For those reasons and more, it is indeed an honor and privilege to recognize Mr. Peter Yelorda at the Missouri Walk of Fame reception, hosted by myself and fellow Missourian, U.S. Representative WM. LACY CLAY of St. Louis.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our appreciation to Peter and his endless commitment to serving the residents of the State of Missouri. He is a true role model not just to the African-American community in Missouri, but to the entire community at large. May his success serve as a stepping stone for many other African-Americans eager to be just as successful in their endeavors. While it is but a small acknowledgement for all of the work he has done, it is a heartfelt gesture, taking strength from the myriad lives he has touched in our hometown.

TRIBUTE TO UNION BENEFICA MEXICANA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and pleasure that I stand before you today to recognize the Union Benefica Mexicana (U.B.M.) on its many accomplishments throughout its 50 years of service to the people of Northwest Indiana and Mexico. This exceptional milestone will be highlighted at the annual Mexican Day Parade to be held on Sunday, September 10, 2006, in East Chicago, Indiana.

The U.B.M., officially founded in November 1956, was the result of a merger between three established organizations: the Cuatemoc Association, the Benito Juárez Association, and the Union of Latin Steel Workers. Since its inception, the U.B.M. has always taken pride in being a pillar of the Mexican Community. They have always made it a priority to remember and celebrate Mexico's independence, through the organization of parades and festivities. At the same time, they have focused on improving the lives of the youth, speaking out against discrimination, and assisting those in need, both here in Northwest Indiana and throughout Mexico.

Throughout its history, the U.B.M. has been instrumental in improving the quality of life in the Mexican community. The efforts of the U.B.M. have been felt by every generation, but nowhere has the selfless commitment of its members been demonstrated more than to the youth of Northwest Indiana and Mexico. Locally, the U.B.M. has a strong tradition of sponsoring youth activities, such as Little League baseball teams, soccer teams, boxing teams, and folkloric dance groups, as well as organizing special events, such as Christmas and Halloween parties and the annual Fiesta De Los Niños celebration.

In addition, the U.B.M.'s commitment to improving educational opportunities for the youth of the community is evidenced by their sponsorship of storytelling sessions by renowned authors, their participation in public library reading programs, and training seminars focused on public speaking and artistic performance. The U.B.M.'s dedication to the youth, specifically towards young women in the community, is further demonstrated by an annual program which, with the support of local elected officials, awards scholarships to three deserving young women each year.

Outside of the United States, the U.B.M.'s commitment to the people of Mexico is a shining example of the dedication, generosity, and

compassion found in the people of Northwest Indiana. The U.B.M.'s efforts in Mexico, throughout the years, have included relief for victims of natural disasters in Mexico City, Acapulco, Oaxaca, and Jalisco, to name a few. The U.B.M. has also conducted fund-raising efforts that have led to the building of churches in El Llano, Michoacan, and Aguas Caliente, as well as the purchase of an ambulance in Nuevo Leon. In addition, to assist Mexican families during the most difficult of times, the U.B.M. has demonstrated its benevolence by providing financial assistance to families in order to assist with the transporting of deceased relatives back to Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating the Union Benefica Mexicana, its members, and its President, Mr. Tony Barreda, on the organization's 50th anniversary. Their many accomplishments, their tireless efforts to improve the community, and their service to the people of Northwest Indiana and Mexico will forever be remembered.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEPHEN K.
HALL

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with the greatest pleasure that I rise today on behalf of my colleagues Rep. JIM COSTA, Rep. DEVIN NUNES, Rep. RICHARD POMBO and Rep. GEORGE RADANOVICH to honor Stephen K. Hall, the Executive Director of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) for his outstanding contributions to California agriculture and the California water community.

The recognition that my colleagues and I are offering today is well deserved and long overdue. Throughout his career, Steve has remained a champion for California agriculture and for the protection and delivery of safe and clean water. Soon after graduating from California State University, Fresno in the early 1970's, Steve began his career as General Manager of the Tulare Lake Drainage District. In the years following, Steve founded the Land Preservation Association, an organization created to help develop and implement irrigation and drainage policy in California, and the California Farm Water Coalition, a pioneer collaboration of agricultural water users and water agencies. In 1992 Steve became the Executive Director of ACWA, and in the years since has helped shape the laws and policies that affect California's cities, farms and businesses. Under Steve's guidance and leadership, the ACWA has been a leader in California water issues. Devoted to promoting the development, management and reasonable beneficial use of water in an environmentally balanced manner, Steve has been involved in many major statewide water issues affecting California's local water agencies. He was a lead negotiator in the three-way negotiations between agricultural, urban and environmental water representatives that led to the creation of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and the passage of Propositions 204 and 13.

Steve Hall's expertise in California's water issues and water policy has been recognized

and utilized by many as he has served in numerous appointed and advisory capacities to Governors Deukmejian, Wilson and Davis. Currently, Steve serves on the Boards of Directors for the California Water Institute and the California Infrastructure Coalition, as a member of the UC Davis Land Air and Water Advisory Committee and the California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee, and is the co-chair of the Water Supply Sub-Committee for the California Bay-Delta Water Authority.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of Steve Hall's 55th birthday, it is with the utmost respect and appreciation that my colleague's and I acknowledge his enormous and lasting contributions to the future of California and America in his continued commitment to sustaining our most precious resource, water.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER
GENERAL ROBERT TAYLOR

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Brigadier General Robert Taylor as he retires after nearly 40 years of service with the United States Army and the Michigan Army National Guard. I thank General Taylor on behalf of those individuals who have benefitted from his time, contributions, and leadership abilities.

Robert Taylor began his career in the Michigan Army National Guard in 1964, where he served 3 years as a Military Police enlisted soldier. Soon after, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant, Military Police Corps in June of 1969. He has held command and staff assignments in the 146th Military Police Battalion, 1st Battalion 119th Field Artillery 38th Infantry Division, 72nd Rear Area Operations Center, and Commander, Recruiting Command, Michigan Army National Guard. During his over 40 years of service, he has been promoted to several, senior staff assignments. Some of these prestigious assignments included positions as Deputy Chief of Staff Operations, Chief of Staff, Michigan National Guard, and in October of 1993, he was promoted to General Officer as the Assistant Adjutant General, Army. General Taylor held the position of Commanding General, 46th Military Police Command for the Michigan National Guard from June 1, 2004 until June 29, 2006, at which time he reverted to sole duty as the Assistant Adjutant General for the Army. In this assignment, Taylor was responsible for the wartime readiness of over 8,300 soldiers of the Michigan Army National Guard. Brigadier General Taylor's dedication to upholding the principles of the United States Army, and his continued work on behalf of the people in his community, is a testament to his strength of character.

General Taylor's years of service in the Army and his dedicated work on behalf of his country are honorable. His decorated medals include the Federal Legion of Merit, the Federal Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the State of Michigan Distinguished Service Medal, and the State of Michigan Legion of Merit Medal. In addition, Taylor has been awarded the Department of the Army Staff Identification Badge and cur-

rently serves as the Chairman of the Board, National Guard Association of the United States. General Taylor's academic background includes a Bachelor's Degree in Management from Spring Arbor University. His military education includes the Military Police Office Basic Course, the Field Artillery Officer Basic and Career Course, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the Senior Reserve Component course at the Army War College.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in honoring General Robert Taylor's exceptional service to America. May he know that his Nation is greatly appreciative for his tireless work.

TRIBUTE TO JEANNE OATES
ANGULO

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to pay tribute to Jeanne Oates Angulo, President of the Capital Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. After twelve years of outstanding service to this organization, Jeanne will be retiring at the end of the year.

Jeanne was tapped to serve as president in 1994 after a successful career in television and radio, including a stint as General Manager of WPGC AM/FM in Washington, D.C. During this time, she was honored with the Advertising Club of Washington's Silver Medal Award, and was recognized as a Woman of the Year by Washington Woman magazine.

Her tenure at the MS Society has been equally distinguished. Jeanne has presided over an explosion in contributions to the Capital Chapter from \$2 million to more than \$5 million annually. She has overseen such fund-raising staples as the MS Walk, the MS Bike Tour, and the Women Against MS Annual Luncheon.

It has been my pleasure to work with Jeanne on the annual MS Ambassadors Ball, a salute to members of the diplomatic corps for their many contributions to humanitarian efforts. My wife, Pat, has co-chaired this event on two occasions, and joins me in praising Jeanne for her determination in soliciting in-kind donations to the Ball to keep overhead expenses low. Jeanne's enthusiasm and drive in this area has ensured that more funds are spent on the Society's mission: ending the devastating effects of MS, supporting MS research, and providing for MS advocacy efforts.

Jeanne has also dedicated her time to service on the boards of many community organizations, including the March of Dimes, the Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club, the USO, the Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts, and the Women of Washington. Her tireless devotion to volunteerism is an outstanding model for others, and has been a tremendous asset to her as she works to get more people involved in charitable efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the entire Board of Directors of the National MS Society, everyone at the Capital Chapter, and all whose lives she has touched join me in thanking Jeanne for her continued efforts to help find a cure for MS. We wish Jeanne and her husband, Al, the very best as they move on to a new chapter in their lives.

IN HONOR OF SUE BIERMAN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, with great sorrow I rise to pay tribute to a beloved San Francisco political and civic leader, Sue Bierman, who died on August 7, 2006. I join my constituents in honoring five decades of tireless service to the people of San Francisco. Sue Bierman leaves a great legacy of compassion, courage and conviction. For those of us involved in San Francisco politics, her passing is a personal as well as a civic loss to our city.

Sue Bierman was a leader who challenged the conscience of our community every day. As a relentless advocate for poor people, for social and economic justice, and for protecting our neighborhoods and our environment, the affectionate name 'Susie' instilled fear and love at the same time. She brought wisdom and compassion to all the causes she undertook.

As a private citizen in the 1950's and 1960's, she became a neighborhood leader who fought to stop the central freeway from destroying her neighborhood—Haight Ashbury, the Pan Handle and Golden Gate Park. For the next forty years she continued to defend the rights, the character and the beauty of San Francisco's neighborhoods.

In 1980 Mayor George Moscone appointed her to the Planning Commission, where she was the sole voice opposing unrestricted downtown development and demanded that developers provide affordable housing, day care and parks.

In 1992 she was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors where she served two terms. She earned the respect and affection of her colleagues. She became a leading advocate for San Francisco's tenants and continued to champion our neighborhoods. After being forced out of office by term limits, she became active in Senior Action Network and continued her participation in Democratic politics.

She took great pride in her family and great interest in the well being of all San Francisco families. Everyone who cares about our children's future is deeply in her debt.

I hope it is a comfort to her beautiful family, whom she loved so dearly, that so many people are mourning her passing and will hold her in their hearts forever.

TRIBUTE TO PHOEBE STROBEL

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Phoebe Strobel as an example of excellence for community service and to congratulate her on her retirement. Having contributed great services to her community in both Millcreek and Warren County, it is my hope that she will continue to share her talents and prosper in the years to come.

Strobel is a graduate of Lock Haven University and Edinboro University, where she earned a masters degree in elementary edu-

cation. She has taught at both Asbury Elementary School in Millcreek and Pittsfield Elementary School in Warren. She has just retired in June 2006 after teaching third grade for thirty-six years at Asbury School, for which she received a citation from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania House of Representatives sponsored by Representative Matthew Good and John Evans in congratulations. Her talents have distinguished her from among other teachers. This enabled her to receive the Pennsylvania Parent-Teacher Association Lifetime Achievement Award in 2000.

Throughout her career as a teacher, Strobel represented education's finest by serving in various associations and committees. She is dedicated to the Northwestern Region Pennsylvania Education Association (PSEA). Serving on the PACE team for 10 years, she has been the PACE Director for Northwestern Pennsylvania since 2002, the PSEA Legislative Committee Co-chair from 1998 to 2002, and a state delegate to the PSEA House of Delegates thirty-six times and eight times as a national delegate to the National Education Association Representative Assembly. Beside her state and national participation, she was also active within community boards, serving the Millcreek Education Association as Secretary and Executive Board member from 1996 to 2002 and as Asbury's Building Representative from 1986 to 2002. She was also a member of the Warren County Education Association Executive Board from 1980 to 1986.

Strobel represents the devotion of an individual to her community and to education. Her example demonstrates the importance of education and involvement that affects the lives of parents and students. For her accomplishments, she deserves congratulations.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me at this time in recognizing the service of Phoebe Strobel and in congratulating her on her retirement with wishes of continued success in all her endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF ARMY STAFF
SERGEANT KENNETH JENKINS**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Army Staff Sergeant Kenneth Jenkins of Fouke, Arkansas, who died on August 12, 2006, fighting for his country in Baghdad, Iraq, supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. Kenneth Jenkins, just 25 years old, was killed during combat while conducting a checkpoint operation. Kenneth Jenkins was assigned to the Army's 3rd Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division in Fort Hood, Texas.

Kenneth Jenkins enlisted in the Army in July of 1999, was on his second tour of duty in Iraq and was scheduled to return home in less than 90 days from his death. Kenneth Jenkins was a decorated soldier with a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart. He had previously completed tours to Bosnia, Kosovo, Macedonia and Cuba. While not serving our country, Kenneth Jenkins enjoyed working on his car and physical fitness, but his family and friends always came first.

I am deeply saddened by the tragic loss of soldiers from Arkansas, who have died while supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. These brave Americans lost their lives while making the ultimate sacrifice to serve our country, and I will be forever grateful to them for their courageous spirit.

Kenneth Jenkins gave his life to serve our country and will forever be remembered as a hero, a son, and a husband. My deepest condolences go out to his wife Brandy; his mother Theresa; his sister Stephani Richard, and his brother, Mack. I know Army Staff Sergeant Jenkins was proud of his service to the U.S. Army and to our country. He will be missed by his family, fellow soldiers, and all those who knew him and counted him as a friend. I will continue to keep Kenneth Jenkins and his family in my thoughts and prayers.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF REV. DR. NELSON "FUZZY"
THOMPSON**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the achievements of Reverend Doctor Nelson "Fuzzy" Thompson, a minister, humanitarian, community activist, and a resident of the Fifth District of Missouri, which I am honored to represent. This week, Rev. Thompson is to be inducted into the Missouri Walk of Fame during a reception as part of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference, an event held to honor the achievements of African-Americans who have made significant contributions to Missouri.

Rev. Thompson graduated from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri with a Bachelor of Science in Education, and received a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry at St. Paul School of Theology.

Rev. Thompson's reputation as a community leader extends beyond the local or national level, but is inclusive of the international community. He was one of 22 U.S. ministers that traveled to South Africa on a fact finding educational exchange, at the request of Bishop Desmond Tutu, President Nelson Mandela, and the South African Council of Churches. "Fuzzy," as he is affectionately known, was one of three U.S. ministers to conduct Easter services for U.S. hostages held in Tehran, Iran in 1980. He was also one of 17 U.S. ministers and activists who served as official observers for the first election ever held in South Africa that allowed the right to vote to all races. He said it was a humbling experience seeing people lining up the night before and standing for blocks in order to exercise their right to vote for the first time.

"Fuzzy" is currently President of the Kansas City Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He has served on multiple boards, including as Chairman of the Nominating Committee for Freedom Incorporated and as a member for the Black Adoption Program and Services, and Human Rights Commission of Kansas City, Missouri.

For those reasons and more, it is indeed an honor and privilege to recognize "Rev. Fuzzy" at the Missouri Walk of Fame reception,

hosted by myself and fellow Missourian, U.S. Representative WM. LACY CLAY of St. Louis.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our appreciation to Reverend Dr. Nelson Thompson and his endless commitment to serving the residents of the State of Missouri. He is a true role model not just to the African-American community in Missouri, but to the entire community at large. May his success serve as a stepping stone for many other African-Americans eager to be just as successful in their endeavors. While it is but a small acknowledgement for all of the work he has done, it is a heartfelt gesture, taking strength from the many lives he has touched in our hometown.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 7, 2006 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 11

2 p.m.
Finance
International Trade Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine NAFTA at year twelve.
SD-215

SEPTEMBER 12

9:30 a.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the next five years relating to homeland security.
SD-342

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the Thompson Memorandum's effect on the right to counsel in corporate investigations.
SD-226

10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine Treasury's role in combating terrorist financing five years after 9/11.
SD-538

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.
SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the effects of the BP pipeline failure in the Prudhoe Bay Oil Field on U.S. oil supply and to examine what steps may be taken to prevent a recurrence of such an event.
SD-628

11 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of James R. Kunder, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.
SD-419

2 p.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine judicial nominations.
SD-226

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science and Space Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the continuing importance of Low Earth Orbit for space based research.
SR-253

SEPTEMBER 13

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Roger Romulus Martella, Jr., of Virginia, to be Assistant Administrator, and Alex A. Beehler, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, both of the Environmental Protection Agency, and William H. Graves, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority.
SD-406

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine intelligence information sharing.
SD-226

10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Housing and Transportation Subcommittee
Economic Policy Subcommittee
To hold joint hearings to examine the housing bubble and its implications for the economy.
SD-538

11:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Mark Myers, of Alaska, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey, David Longly Bernhardt, of Colorado, to be Solicitor, and John Ray Correll, of Indiana, to be Director of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, all of the Department of the Interior.
SD-628

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary
Crime and Drugs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine challenges facing today's federal prosecutors.
SD-226
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Wayne Cartwright Beyer, of New Hampshire, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, and Stephen Thomas Conboy, of Virginia, to be United States Marshal for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.
SD-342

SEPTEMBER 14

10 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Aviation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine rural air service.
SR-253

SEPTEMBER 19

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of General Bantz J. Craddock, USA, for reappointment to be general and to be Commander, U.S. European Command, Vice Admiral James G. Stavridis, USN for appointment to be admiral and to be Commander, U.S. Southern Command, Nelson M. Ford, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller, and Ronald J. James, of Ohio, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.
SH-216

SEPTEMBER 21

10:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
To resume hearings to examine progress of the Capitol Visitor Center construction.
SD-138